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The Inkwell

Armstrong State University

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From the Desk of the President

TAYLOR SURINE
NEWS EDITOR

Up until August 19th, Armstrong’s office of Student Affairs is offering food, games, and block parties during the “Weekend of Welcome” to help incoming freshmen become acclimated to their new college life at Armstrong. Armstrong prides itself on keeping its students engaged with various events that will be organized throughout the school year. Inkwell’s Editor-in-Chief, Kayla Rand, admires Armstrong’s busy campus. “Many people will advocate for the numerous activities to partake in on campus, which are very beneficial to freshmen, but there will always be a need of a getaway from school, work, and life.” She encourages new students to “Utilize Armstrong’s 266 acres to escape the stress of your books yet, check out the various spots around campus.”

Sophomore Paige Clendenen enjoys the convenient WEP A printers that can be found around campus. “They are everywhere, usually in every hall...and are pretty sweet.”

Lane Library is the perfect destination for a relaxed environment as the second floor is known for its quietness.

Armstrong’s office of Student Affairs has computers, couches, and study rooms with whiteboards that are perfect for group study, but because of its popularity, it can be a bit noisy. The Writing Center for a free cup of joe. The Writing Center is in 123 Gamble Hall and offers free coffee and tutoring for Armstrong Students. A group of students entertained with various games and prizes available at the Writing Center.

During my time at Armstrong, I will advocate for what’s best for students. My goal is to ensure the future success of Armstrong students by creating vibrant learning environments that foster a student-centered culture of engagement. This we currently do on the Armstrong campus, but with Georgia Southern University we can do even more. Through consolidation, we can provide more resources, opportunities, and options for students.

Going beyond our campus, we can be a part of an effort to build regional and statewide partnerships in technological innovation, scientific advancement, education, health services, artistic enrichment, and cultural enrichment. The future of the consolidated institution is inextricably linked to the region’s future. I will engage with business and community leaders to determine how we can best meet workforce needs locally and nationally. Armstrong needs educational institutions that are equipped to produce students to succeed in the rapidly changing 21st century global economy. I will work to ensure that the consolidated institution is transformative in this regard.

During my term as President, I will work to transform Armstrong into a regionally comprehensive powerhouse institution. I admire and appreciate the passion for Armstrong. I truly believe we can channel that passion to develop in Savannah, Statesboro, and Hinesville an institution that is providing even greater educational opportunities for students.

Of course, one of the greatest challenges in merging two institutions is typically weaying cultures together. Yet, if I took a snapshot of how I hope the future consolidated University would appear, it would look like this.

A scene of individuals across departments, positions, and campuses working together in small, focused groups. Groups work daily on the seemingly mundane items in front of them and tackle the more complex issues ahead for others in the future. Vision is heard, opinions are respected, and progress is felt by all those involved. And the reverberations of their success spread to the outside world.

This is not an image I dreamed up. It is an actual occurrence. I witnessed when I arrived this summer as the consolidation work groups comprised of faculty, staff, and students from both Universities continued their work. Where I expected conflict, I experienced collaboration.

On goals for my term of office, the Writing Center is in 123 Gamble Hall and offers free coffee and tutoring for Armstrong Students. With the variety of options on campus, there are limitless opportunities to take the stress out of school. The Inkwell staff would like to welcome everyone a great first week of school and a smooth transition into full classes this semester! We hope these tips provide guidance for our fellow Pirates.

As your President during this transition, my goal is to instill a framework that will provide transformational learning opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse student population while re-orienting our commitment to academic excellence and personal attention.

Where students may have concerns about joining a larger institution, I am here to tell you we are doing everything in our power to create an environment that fosters the success of the individual and maintains the culture of learning that attracted you to Armstrong.

On my experience thus far at the University

Prior to arriving on this campus, I was the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach at the University of Georgia. I represented that institution around the state in outreach, engagement and economic development. I have spoken with many employers, non-profits, community leaders and decision-makers across the state in the decades to come. Our aim is to equip you to have a positive impact on the world around you.

You are not only students, you are future leaders in the field of your choice. Through the new Georgia Southern University, we aim to give you the skills needed by providing access to more academic programs, resources and degree offerings. Your future is bright!

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“Music plays a big part in keeping me happy or keeping me sane,” lead singer Ernest Greene from the band Washed Out sings in “Down and out”, the seventh track off his latest album “Mister Mellow”.

Washed Out released its third album June 29, and the saying “third time’s a charm” certainly rings true in this case. Washed Out continues to pioneer the Chillwave movement with this album featuring psychedelic, earthy sounds layered with synthesizers, drum machines and distortion. Beyond the instrumentation, Washed Out is peppered with seemingly simple, yet sharp emotive lyrics and voice-overs.

For instance, in the fifth track, Greene reminisces on his disconnect between illusion, reality and failed relationships, “I daydream when I walk/ I daydream when I’m in class/ dance/ Next time around I’ll watch the words I say/ Next time around I’ll bury my love/ And hide it away.”

Despite Greene’s sometimes startling lyricism and elongated voiceovers, the album cleverly parallels Washed Out’s previous two albums “Paracosm” and “Within and Without”. The danceable tracks that popularized Greene continue to shine within “Mister Mellow”. Although this album is in many ways a success, the album itself is relatively short. With several songs more akin to intros or musical segues, the album clocks in at just 29 minutes in playing time. Meanwhile, the duration of Washed Out’s previous albums are closer to 40 minutes in playing time.

Overall, the album is cohesive, but lacks in terms of artistic progression. Perhaps the danceable tunes and “chill vibe” Greene evokes are just renditions of Washed Out’s previous albums, regardless of being a key player within this sub-genre.

In Mister Mellow, an overall feeling of pure relaxation is felt in the tempo of the tracks and slowed down vocals, but Greene might want to take his next venture more seriously if he wants to continue making progress as a musician.

Washed Out is a band based in Athens, Ga. The lead and only singer is Ernest Greene. Washed Out has released a total of three albums; his latest “Mister Mellow” can be found via Stones THROW Records, streaming on Spotify and in local record stores.

LILA MILLER
A&E EDITOR
Album Review: Washed Out’s Mister Mellow

Events, August 17-22

17 Board Game Bonanza Learning Commons 8-10 PM
Capture the Flag Intramural Fields 10-11:30 PM
18 Beach Bash Tybee Island Pier 2-6 PM
Meet the Eagles Fan Fest Armstrong Soccer Fields 6-9 PM
19 Meet the Greeks Compass Point 1-3 PM
Housing Block Party Windward Commons 2-4 PM
20 Lift Every Voice: African American Museums Free Day Telfair Museums 12-4 PM
21 Eclipse Everywhere Roughly 2:30 PM
22 Tongue: Open Mouth and Music Open Mic Night The Sentient Bean 8 PM

Weekly playlist: So Long to Summer

Listen here:

HAV E AN IDEA FOR A&E?
WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

CONTACT:
LILA MILLER
ARTS.INKWELL@GMAIL.COM
What do you like best about Armstrong’s campus?

As campus is starting to fill back up with new faces and old classmates, I can’t help but think about how this will be Armstrong’s last official school year. For me specifically, this is my last semester as I will be walking across stage on December 9th, to receive my master’s degree at Armstrong. Unfortunately this is my final semester, but I know I will bring a diverse voice to the paper as I am the only graduate student on staff! I look forward to closing my chapter here with bang and starting my career in communications once I walk across that stage on December 9th. You can find me covering various events on campus or in the Inkwell office. Don’t be afraid to say hi!

About your Editor-in-Chief:

KAYLA RAND

Hi Pirates! I am proud to announce that I am the new Inkwell Editor-in-Chief. After working in the newspaper industry for two years, I landed my master’s degree at Armstrong. Unfortunately this is my final semester, but I know I will bring a diverse voice to the paper as I am the only graduate student on staff! I look forward to closing my chapter here with bang and starting my career in communications once I walk across that stage on December 9th. You can find me covering various events on campus or in the Inkwell office. Don’t be afraid to say hi!

Letter From the Editor

KAYLA RAND

As campus is starting to fill back up with new faces and old classmates, I can’t help but think about how this will be Armstrong’s last official school year. For me specifically, this is my last semester as I will be walking across stage on December 9th, to receive my master’s degree in Communication and Leadership. Although I have only attended for two semesters, it is a weary feeling knowing my alma mater will no longer exist. Think about it – when I present my degree, I will have to explain how I received my education from a school that was merged into a bigger institution. Hopefully, it will not negatively impact my career. However, I will always be proud to be a pirate.

The history and culture of Armstrong will always remain, regardless of the consolidation. Therefore, we need to bring in this semester with a bang and finish spring off strong – pirate strong. As students we can show our support by getting involved in various activities. Whether you join a club or attend an event, you should keep the initiative in being active on campus. Many doors have opened since I first stepped foot on this campus including becoming the Editor-in-Chief of the Inkwell. What better way is there than taking the initiative in being active on campus! Find your interests. In a world ran off of technology, it is hard to be motivated to get off of your phone and go active. However, getting involved on campus can help you find your place in Armstrong.

The consolidation hearing was the first event I attended at Armstrong, which was both disappointing and uplifting at the same time. It was then that I realized the school I was just beginning my master’s academic career in was going to end. I was disappointed in whoever allowed this decision to be made.

I wanted to be angry at someone and in the midst of emotions, I looked around in the auditorium. Everyone was expressing the same feelings I had felt. They wanted answers and reasoning to everything being discussed. Overall, it gave me a sense of unity with peers and sparked friendships with those sitting next to me.

As I left the hearing, I saw an Inkwell rack with one newspaper left. Oddly, I opened it up backwards and immediately I saw an and for writers. After contributing a few stories to the paper, it was asked if I was interested in becoming apart of the staff. Many of the editors were graduating and the Inkwell needed new members. Having a bachelor’s degree in Journalism and experience within the newspaper industry, my background was ideal for the position. Thankfully, I was hired and now serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the Inkwell, which is only one of many opportunities that Armstrong has to offer. So, my fellow students – go get involved on campus! Find something you are already interested in or try something new, but don’t sit still. What will you accomplish in your last year as an Armstrong student?
To begin with, I wanted to introduce myself. My name is Joséf Papp and I am the Editor-in-Chief of The George-Anne.

As you know, there has been a proposal to change the name of The Armstrong State University newspaper. The Inkwell, to The George-Anne name, because of the consolidation between the two institutions set to take effect in the Fall of 2018.

My position

I just wanted to be able to express my opinion and my position as Editor-in-Chief in the hope that makes it clear the intentions of my staff and myself in this case. Although the recommendations have been approved by all of us involved for the name change, we will support any decision made by The Inkwell editors in the name of their newspaper.

We want to make sure that everyone understands that our goal has never been to take over or force the Inkwell to do anything for us, but we want to be able to respect and keep that history going. The George-Anne is happy to be able to open doors, so both of our Savannah and Statesboro communities can benefit from this part of the consolidation.

We want to have the best content possible that will satisfy our readers in Statesboro, and if one story would be beneficial in Savannah, we will make sure that we share the information with our counterparts at The Inkwell. I want to make sure that under no circumstances will the Editor-in-Chief of The George-Anne in Statesboro force The Inkwell staff to write a story or create an assignment for them. I know this consolidation has had a bigger impact at Armstrong that at Georgia Southern and although I have only been involved in the capacity of reporting about the consolidation and the recommendation of the name change for The Inkwell, I want to share my support through this difficult and delicate situation.

The George-Anne

For those who don’t know who we are, we are the official newspaper of Georgia Southern University. We just celebrated our 90th anniversary in April and are proud to be the longest continuous newspaper in Bulloch County.

We have gone through some changes the past few years with the goal of growing towards a digital product rather than a print product. We still expect to continue our print newspaper every Tuesday and Thursday day throughout the Fall and Spring semesters for the foreseeable future.

Looking ahead

Since this will not take effect until the Fall of 2018, I will no longer be in charge of The George-Anne, since I will be graduating in May. However, currently I have staff members who will still be part of The George-Anne during that time and it is my duty to represent their views on the proposal.

Our main goal is to be able to work together for both of our newspapers to be successful and we continue to grow.

I want to make sure that the editors at The Inkwell, any administrator at Armstrong or Georgia Southern or any community member at both campuses understand that I’m available for any question, comments or concerns that they may have about the way The George-Anne operates.

Consolidation committee approves summer recommendations

STANTON DORSON JR.

STANTON DORSON JR.

With the advent of the consolidation many students have been left feeling uneasy about their circumstances as students at Armstrong State in the upcoming years. It is reassuring, however, that Georgia Southern will keep the same programs that are currently offered at Armstrong and will adopt Georgia Southern’s policies, while maintaining Armstrong’s campus and we want to be able to keep the integrity of chapters on each campus.

The Consolidation Implementation Committee, CIC, approved several recommendations over the summer that the Inkwell has compiled into a summarized list.

Changes related to academic policy:

- Adopting the Georgia Southern modeled policy on early academic alerts. First-year retention and academic success at Georgia Southern has improved since the implementation of this policy. Freshmen were alerted if they were making unsatisfactory progress in a course, as early as the third week of classes.

- Creating a new Academic Standing Policy. According to the CIC, this new policy would encourage better academic performance, while also providing a better infrastructure for “support, resources, and opportunities.”

The approval is intended to facilitate full implementation of the policy by Fall 2018.

There have also been changes to the institutions policy that effecting campus life which include:

- Combining Fra
ternity and Sorority Life operating policies and proced
cedures, while maintaining the integrity of chapters on each campus.

Consolidating the Armstrong State University and Georgia Southern Police department, which has already begun.

- Unifying Arm
strong’s and Georgia Southern’s email systems by Feb
rueary 2018. Stated directly from the CIC’s minutes taken on June 28th, “All Armstrong students will receive their new georgiasouthern.edu email address in late February 2018. Armstrong students will use their armstrong.edu account and email address through Spring and Summer 2018 for Armstrong resources, but they will use their new georgiasouthern.edu account and email address for Fall 2018 registration, financial aid, and other University related resources.”

Additionally there are changes that will shortly be in effect concerning identity and organization. Such changes include:

- Changes to Arm
strong’s logo, colors, and mascot. An official logomark will be available starting January 2018. As stated by the CIC, “The new Georgia Southern will preserve and capitalize on strong brand equity...by retaining Georgia Southern’s visual identity...”

The Marketing and Commu
nications Office will revise current style and identity guides to reflect naming con
ventions: Armstrong Campus in Savannah.

More details on changes concerning new logos, policy, exchange students, limited grade replacement, and oth
er student-related regulations can be accessed on the cons
olidation section.

As we know, it is import
ant to stay informed on the major changes and updates from the CIC. Thus, the Ink
well will be collaborate a consolida
tion section that will be print
ed in each issue leading up

For more daily updated
information on the consolidat
ion check out consolidation.georgiasouthern.edu.