

Office of the Dean
College of Arts & Sciences

DEANotes

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WheelerNotes

From Rumor to FACT: An Evening at Armstrong

Full-time faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Sciences are invited to meet as a community for food and entertainment on *Tuesday evening, February 10*. Departmental secretaries have the details of the event, but here are the highlights:

Place: Solms 110

Time: 6:00 for sangria and finger foods; 6:30 for buffet meal; 7:30 for Showcase Concert

Menu: Mixed lettuces with Tomatoes and Cucumbers; Chile Lime Vinaigrette and Creamy Roasted Pepper Dressings; Black Beans; Mexican Style Red Rice; Rolled Quesadillas with Roasted Vegetables and Cheese; Tex-Mex style Beef Tacos; Make-your-own Fajita Station with marinated chicken and fixings; Chocolate cheesecake

Free childcare will be provided in the Honors Program lounge, Solms 103; Cost is \$5.00 for adults and no cost for children. See departmental secretary to register before February 5.

Laptops in Peril

Over the last several months multiple laptop computers and other electronic equipment have been stolen from locked offices. Specifically, over the last four months laptop computers and equipment have been stolen from locked offices in Gamble Hall (LLP) and Hawes Hall (History and Economics) among others. Although officers in Public Safety have been monitoring the situation closely, they do not yet have a solution to the problem. At the present time it is not wise to leave laptop computers unprotected on a desktop, even if the office door is locked. Faculty members who need to leave laptop computers set up on their desks should ask their department heads to purchase security devices that would provide an obstacle to a casual thief. In other circumstances, faculty members should leave the laptop in a locked file drawer out of sight and out of reach of a master key for the building.

FinlayNotes

Law School Advisement Tips

In December, Ms. Marilyn Sutton, Assistant Dean of the Mercer University School of Law spoke about the current climate regarding admission to law schools in general and at Mercer in particular. Sutton made clear that competition to gain entry into law school has never been more intense and that good advisement is essential.

Those who advise potential law students should be aware that the official published deadlines for admission are in fact rather artificial. Admissions committees begin to fill the fall class in December and January; many of the slots have been filled and most of the scholarships have been awarded before the official deadline rolls around. This also means that students should take the LSAT exam no later than October, and preferably in June, of the year before they intend to enroll.

Also of note: she mentioned Mercer's current freshmen class of 145 students represents 30 different majors, (and no major predominates); students with an unusually poor semester on their transcripts would be wise to submit an addendum offering an explanation; those who take the LSAT more than once will be evaluated on the basis of the average score, not the higher score.

Phi Kappa Phi

We are looking into the possibility of establishing a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi on the AASU campus. PKP is a general, multidisciplinary, honors society with 385 chapters and some 120,000 active members around the world

In order to establish a chapter, we need to create a chartering group of at least fifteen individuals, at least ten of whom are active members of Phi Kappa Phi and on the AASU faculty or staff. (As many as five active Phi Kappa Phi members-at-large within our geographic area may join the institution's

members to complete the charter group of fifteen.) Five of the required charter group may be members of Phi Beta Kappa or Sigma Xi, rather than Phi Kappa Phi. If you are an active member of Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Beta Kappa, or Sigma Xi, please let me know so that we can begin to create a chartering group.

ArmstrongFest

The second annual ArmstrongFest is scheduled for the week of April 12-18. Planned events include a Quiz Bowl (this time with students and faculty on the same teams); a slam poet; an international festival; a golf tournament; a 5K run; a faculty lecture by John Jensen; a downtown AASU history walk; a jazz combo performance, and more.

In addition, the week coincides with three annual events that highlight student success: the MACAS awards ceremony, the student research and scholarship competition, and the annual awards convocation.

Students Participate in Habitat for Humanity Projects

Dr. Jonathan Roberts, PSYC, has teamed up with Habitat for Humanity to get students involved in giving back to the community by building Habitat houses. In each of the last four months, groups of 10-15 students have volunteered their labor on the fourth Saturday of the month. In all, over 40 students have given a day of their time, performing tasks such as painting, laying sod, and prepping grounds. Generally speaking, the students have had very positive reactions to the experience, and several students have come out on more than one occasion.

Dr. Roberts has committed to bringing groups again in the spring semester, also on the fourth Saturday of each month. If you or your students are interested in participating in Habitat for Humanity, feel free to contact Dr. Roberts for more information.

FacultyNotes

William Daugherty, CJSPS, has published "Approval and Review of Covert Action Programs Since Reagan," *International Journal of Intelligence and Counterintelligence* 17 (Spring 2004): 62-80.

Jim Brwaner and Ed Wheeler welcome the publication of their text, "*Discrete Mathematics for Teachers*", in January of this year by the Houghton Mifflin Company.

Faculty/Student Notes

Richard Cebula, Rick McGrath, and William Perry (an economics graduate of December 2003) have won the "Best Author Award" from the *Journal of the American Academy of Business* for their paper entitled, "Determinants of Interstate Bank Failure Differentials: A Heteroskedastic TOBIT Analysis," *Journal of the American Academy of Business*, September, 2003, pp. 56-66.

Deadlines and Dates

- 14 January** Extra Compensation Agreements due
- 14 January** Part-time Faculty Pay Report Worksheet due
- 15 January** Corrected Spring CIRS
- 16 January** Non-attendance reports due from all faculty
- 21 January** Faculty Assignment Reports (FAR)
- 21 January** Part-time Faculty Evaluations
- 21 January** Nominations for University Curriculum Committee due
- 23 January** Faculty Lecture Series: David Leaver, HIST, on Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe
- 23 January** Retention Recommendations of First Year Faculty due to dean
- 27 January** Academic Council Meeting
- 30 January** Deadline for Items for College Curriculum Committee
- 31 January** Open House #2
- 2 February** Faculty APARs due to Dept Heads; Dept Head APARs due to dean
- 6 February** Faculty Forum: Managing Class Size
- 6 February** College Curriculum Committee meeting
- 10 February** "An Evening at Armstrong," for full-time faculty and staff in the College of Arts and Sciences.

DEANotes is a quasi-weekly publication of the College of Arts & Sciences. Dr. Mark Finlay is the editor. Some of the content of the publication will be informational content directed primarily at department heads. However, other parts of the reading may be of interest to members of the faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences. In addition to a limited paper distribution, *DEANotes* will be posted upon publication at the Faculty Resources page of the web site for the College of Arts & Sciences.