

Office of the Dean  
College of Arts & Sciences

# DEANotes

January 21, 2005

Vol. IV, No. 6

## Procedure for Medical Emergency

In the event an Armstrong Atlantic State University student or employee becomes ill, is involved in an accident, or requires emergency medical care while on campus, any Armstrong Atlantic employee on the scene should proceed as enumerated below:

1. Call the Office of University Police, 921-5555 and report the incident. Tell University Police if 911 should be called. Tell University Police specifically where the person needing attention is located.
2. Maintain order and ensure that the person is not moved. Keep the person as comfortable as possible until a university police officer and/or EMS arrives.
3. If the name of the person is known, please make certain that University Police have the information so that necessary notifications may be made.

*Questions or additional information? Contact the Division of Student Affairs in the Memorial College Centers at 927-5271.*

## WheelerNotes

**The Liberty Center, a Brief History:** As we passed the 7000 mark in enrollment this Fall we sometimes forget that 500 of those students were located at the Liberty Center located about 33 miles south and west of our main campus in the town of Hinesville, Georgia. [For our new faculty members, Hinesville is the home of Fort Stewart, a major army base and a catalyst for rapid economic growth in Liberty County.]

Our initial involvement in Liberty County began in the mid-nineties when we were asked to lead a consortium of USG institutions to become a major educational provider for military personnel at the base. As time passed, we found that the citizens most anxious to take courses from us were not active duty military personnel, but rather the civilian residents of Liberty County including the family of military personnel.

Over time our consortium of five USG institutions has dwindled to a consortium of 1 or 1.5 affiliated institutions. At the Liberty Center we offer the entire core, we offer the general studies major and the criminal justice major. Two years ago we vastly improved the academic opportunities we provided Liberty students when we used USG special initiative monies to locate three full time faculty at the Center. This past fall Professors Joe Weaver, Carol Ebel, and Megan Kupratty led our efforts to provide quality services to these important students. In addition to these stalwarts, Liberty students have been blessed with the efforts of other Armstrong full-time faculty with Professors Josi and Bennett leading these Liberty County Heros.

**Changes at the Liberty Center:** On January 1st, **Dr. Joe Weaver** began service as Director of the Liberty Center. For five years, Dr. Weaver has been a valued teacher of philosophy both in Liberty County and here on the Armstrong campus. We look forward to working with Joe to continue to improve the opportunities offered these students.

**Congratulations Dr. Weaver!!!**

Equally momentarily, we moved Armstrong's efforts off the military base and into a new rented facility in Hinesville. Faculty and staff report the new facility is a 200% improvement over their previous quarters. It sits a mile from the front gate of Fort Stewart, so we will continue to serve soldiers and their families, but it is also easily accessed by most of the civilian population of Liberty County.

**Entrepreneurial Economics:** When looking at the Summer 2005 and the Fall 2005 course offerings, you will find two new economics courses in the schedule: ECON 5111 Economics of Entrepreneurship I and ECON 5112 Economics of Entrepreneurship II. Though they bear heady 5000 level numbers, they are directed at students from a variety of disciplines. Students from the arts, the humanities, the technologies, the sciences, and the health and education professions often develop or possess a

competence with which they aspire to start a new business related to their studies (the real ownership economy!). In ECON 5111 and ECON 5112 these students will be pointed in the directions they need to go to achieve this goal. Please bring these courses to the attention of your junior/senior/graduate students with an entrepreneurial flair. For more information, please contact Dr. Saadatmand (5548) or Professor Weinbach (3172).

### **Overheard at the National Deans' Meeting in San Antonio:**

Three reasons why we will never get abolish the position of Dean of Arts and Science

- Who would sell the President's ideas to the faculty?
- Who would take the blame for the President's ideas?
- To whom would the faculty go in their desire to do endrums around their chairs?

*Critique of Assessment:* You don't fatten the pig by weighing it every day.

## **FinlayNotes**

### **12th Annual Georgia Conference of College & University Teaching**

The Georgia Conference on College & University Teaching will be held 11-12 February at Kennesaw State University. The interdisciplinary conference is designed to provide college and university faculty with the opportunity to discuss and share experiences and innovative teaching techniques. The conference offers concurrent sessions on teaching techniques and issues in the areas of Assessment, the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning, the Reflective Practice of Teaching/Learning, Interdisciplinary Teaching, e-Learning, Diversity, and academic-based programs designed to enhance Student Success & Retention. For additional conference information, including details on submitting poster proposals, please visit the conference Web site at <http://www.kennesaw.edu/cetl/gaconf12.htm> or contact Bill Hill at [bhill@kennesaw.edu](mailto:bhill@kennesaw.edu)

### **New Faculty Notes**

#### **What are the Odds of a Hole in One in Disc Golf, (in These Conditions)?**

This is a question that might interest **Greg Knofczynski, Assistant Professor of Mathematics**. A native of South Dakota, Knofczynski earned his doctorate last year from the University of Northern

Colorado in applied statistics. His dissertation study focused on multiple linear regression analysis, and offers effective methods for determining the sample size needed for predictive purposes. These methods could be useful for AASU faculty in the social and natural sciences who are interested in determining how to construct samples for their own research projects. Knofczynski's expertise also contributes to the math department curriculum, which expects to expand course offerings and offer a minor in statistics in the near future.

An enthusiastic disc golfer, Knofczynski might need to apply his methodology to his hobby, a sport in which wind speed, relative humidity, barometric pressure, and density of sand gnats could affect results.

### **From Roller Coaster Operator to the Freie Universität**

With a master's degree in philosophy in hand, **Temporary Instructor of Philosophy Jack Simmons** was the best-educated operator of the Jet Star roller coaster at the Boardwalk in Santa Cruz. Yet after some time at the theme park and as a ski instructor, Simmons decided that it was time to enter the doctoral program at Tulane University. That soon led him to the Freie Universität in Berlin, where he took graduate philosophy classes, in German, on *Wahrheit* (truth), *Bedeutung* (meaning), *Rechtfertigung* (justification) and other mind-bending subjects. Simmons' dissertation, a study of discourse theories of truth, focused on Jürgen Habermas, John Rawls, and other twentieth-century philosophers. His regrettable conclusion is that Habermas's discourse theory "no longer establishes universal ground for validity, or truth."

In addition to teaching courses, Simmons is also a novelist, and now is at work on his second book of historical fiction. In the summer, he will be leading a group of university professors to Cuba, by sailboat, for a research trip intended to test some of Habermas's models.

### **Faculty Notes**

**Andrew Weinbach, Economics**, was quoted on Forbes.com, 6 January 2005, for his expertise on sports gambling. In a story entitled "5 Betting Tips for the NFL Playoffs," two of the tips were derived from Weinbach and colleague **Rodney Paul**'s study "Market Efficiency and Profitable Betting Rules," published in the *Journal of Sports Economics*. According to Weinbach and Paul, bettors should bet on the underdog, and bet the "Under" in the over/under wager. Those who took Weinbach's advice on the games that weekend would have won six of the eight bets.

**June Hopkins, History**, has been awarded a Sasakawa Fellowship to participate in a National Faculty Development Institute on "Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum." Funded through the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), the Institute will be held at San Diego State University from June 1 to June 24, 2005

Google "fonts and hollis" and you will stumble on a fascinating web site named "Applied Symbols", maintained by **Dr. Selwyn Hollis in the Department of Mathematics**. It seems that Dr. Hollis not only teaches, advises, gives visiting lectures, and writes differential equations textbooks; he also designs and distributes computer fonts. This web site has involved Dr. Hollis in a number of interesting projects, including creating a font for a Stanford linguistics professor working to preserve the language of the Eyak Native American tribe of Alaska, and a "dotless Braille" font for translating Braille into a form that is readable by sighted readers.

Several members of the Biology Department participated in the State of the Art in Biology meeting in Athens. **Dr. Kathryn Craven** presented two posters, one entitled "Embryology and Egg Failure in the Loggerhead Sea Turtle (*Caretta Caretta*) on the Georgia Coast," the other, in collaboration with student **Jennifer Perwiznyk**, entitled "Socio-sexual Interactions of the Atlantic Bottlenose Dolphin on the Coast of Tybee Island, Georgia." **Drs. Alex Collier and Judy Awong-Taylor** presented a research poster with student **Leslie Bates** on the "The Antimicrobial Properties Found on the Skin of Frogs." In addition, **Dr. Awong-Taylor** and **Dr. Jennifer Zettler** organized and chaired various sessions.

**Kathryn S. Craven, Biology**, presented "Fatty Acid Composition in The Yolk of the Green Sea Turtle, *Chelonia myda*," at the 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Sea Turtle Biology and Conservation. Collaborators included **Dr. Steve Taylor, Psychology**, J. Parsons,... and D.W. Owens,...

Several of the Mathematics faculty and students attended the AMS/MAA conference in Atlanta in January. **Dr. Lorrie Hoffman** presented a talk, "Being One's Own Experimental Unit in the Classroom," and December 2004 graduate, **Min-Jung (Jenny) Seo**, competed in a poster session of 123 student presenters. Her research was conducted under the supervision of **Dr. Selwyn Hollis** and concerned the mathematical modeling via differential

equations of the destruction of the southern pine trees by beetle infestation. She was one of about 35 to win top honors and \$100.

**Drs. Mike Toma and Rick McGrath, economics**, have been awarded a grant from the Chatham-Effingham Tobacco Use Prevention Coalition to study "Tobacco Use Among Savannah's College Level Students, 2004." The grant supports a survey of college level students in Savannah to obtain baseline data on tobacco use to evaluate the effectiveness of cessation activities at institutions of higher education in Savannah. 1400 students at each of AASU, SCAD, and SSU will be surveyed in January 2004. Topics addressed will be tobacco usage, motivation and willingness to quit, perceptions about smoking regulation enforcement and smoker friendliness of campus environment, and student demographics.

**Drs. Richard Cebula and Mike Toma, Economics**, have published another paper in collaboration with an AASU undergraduate. The citation is: Richard Cebula, **Will Perry**, and Mike Toma, "Budget Deficits and Crowding Out," *Indian Journal of Economics* (April, 2004): 587-596.

#### Pre-Law Club

**Dr. Becky da Cruz, CJSPS**, has led efforts to create a chapter of the Pre-Law fraternity, Pi Alpha Delta on the AASU Campus. Planned activities include meetings with members of the local legal community, advice on the law school application process, and tips on preparing for the LSAT. Please advise students who are contemplating a career in law to contact Dr. da Cruz (x 7407) to learn more about this opportunity.

#### Deadlines and Dates

January 28	A&S Curr Comm Items Due Last Chance for 2005-2006 Catalog
January 29	Spring Open House I
February 1	College Curr Comm Meeting, 2:30 p.m.
February 4	Faculty Forum: Faculty Evaluation Procedure
February 11	Faculty Lecture: Lynch & Nivens on Nanotechnology
February 7	Faculty APARS to Dept Heads Dept Head APARS to Dean
February 15	Spring FAR's due
February 17	Post-Tenure recommendation due
February 25	Faculty AFE's/APAR's due to Dean
February 28	Last Day of Class (Session 2)