

College of Arts & Sciences

The Shipp-ing News



Dr. Bob Shipp

THE EXPERTISE OF DR. BOB SHIPP, CHAIR OF the Department of Marine Sciences, is in great demand these days, Dr. Shipp has recently been appointed to two important environmental committees.

Alabama Governor Bob Riley has appointed Dr. Shipp to a six year term on state's Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Board (CNRAB), and, he has also been appointed as one of two Alabama scientists (two from each Gulf state) to oversee the allocation of 500 million dollars provided by BP for research over the next 10 years.

With the CNRAB, Dr. Shipp will help with policy planning and policy making for the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Board members also help provide oversight of rules and regulations and other duties include proposing revision of rules and regulations when warranted. In the press release announcing Dr. Shipp's appointment, Governor Riley is quoted as saying, "Dr. Shipp is recognized around the world as the foremost authority on fishes in the Gulf of Mexico. As a marine biologist, his knowledge of our coastal environment is second to none." Governor Riley goes on to note that Dr. Shipp is a great choice for the board given the threat of the BP oil spill to Alabama's

coastal environments. Indeed, Dr. Shipp's research centers on fish systematic and zoogeography and the ecology of artificial reef systems.

When the CNRAB next meets in February the committee will have a clear focus, according to Dr. Shipp: "We are mostly concerned about habitat. Species are resilient and they will recover quickly as long as the habitat is healthy. We will need to carefully monitor marshes, seagrass beds, oyster reefs, Sargassum (floating mats of seaweed), and hard bottom habitats over the coming years."

Mr. Barnett Lawley, Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, praises Dr. Shipp in the press release announcing Dr. Shipp's appointment to the CNRAB: "This oil spill should make everyone realize what great treasures we have in our coastal waters and how much they need to be protected. Nobody better understands what steps this board needs to take to protect that area better than Bob Shipp."

A faculty member at USA since 1972, Dr. Shipp is particularly proud of his involvement with developing the graduate programs in Marine Sciences, especially its PhD program. In addition to his role in the success of the graduate programs, Dr. Shipp also takes pride in his role in USA's successful efforts to expand the Dauphin Island Sea Lab. USA's Marine Sciences Program is one of the largest in the Gulf region, and Shipp

says the funding for research in marine sciences "has grown to several million dollars annually." He adds that USA's partnership with the Dauphin Island Sea Lab "has resulted in both entities [being] recognized as major players" in marine research in the United States.

In addition to his duties as chair of Marine Sciences, Dr. Shipp also serves as president of the federal Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, which Dr. Shipp says sets seasons, quotas, and limits "for all marine species managed in the federal waters of the Gulf." In addition, Dr. Shipp uses his expertise and energy to direct the Alabama Center for Estuarine Studies.

For many people along the Gulf Coast, Dr. Shipp is also well known for his participation since 1982 as a judge for the Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo. According to Dr. Shipp, "The Rodeo has evolved to an incredible and unmatched source of fishery resource material for the scientific community. Over the last several decades, world class scientists from every major museum in the country, as well as from Europe, have travelled to the Rodeo to collect material (fish specimens), the diversity of which can be found no where else." While the oil spill stopped the fishing rodeo in 2010, Dr. Shipp says the plan is "to move forward with a great Rodeo for 2011."

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Dr. Zohair Husain's Fulbright Grant



DR. ZOHAIH HUSAIN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL Science, had a wonderful teaching experience last year as a Fulbright lecturer in Egypt at Cairo University. Now back at South teaching his political science classes, Dr. Husain has brought with him a wealth of cultural and scholarly knowledge thanks to the prestigious Fulbright experience, an experience he urges USA faculty members to pursue.

The special opportunity to go to Cairo University has positively impacted his teaching and research. According to Dr. Husain, "My Fulbright Grant in Egypt has greatly expanded my intellectual horizons and benefited me. I have already begun incorporating what I have learned and experienced in Egypt in my class lectures. I plan to give more talks on my experiences on-campus to make more faculty members and students aware of the Fulbright Scholar Program. In the future, I will offer a new course on Egypt based on my extensive readings and varied experiences."

Cairo University is one of Africa's and the Middle East's oldest and largest universities. It was founded in 1908 and has approximately 160,000 students. Its medical school is the oldest in Africa. He says he chose to go teach in Egypt for a number of reasons: "Geography, history, politics, and culture have contributed to making Egypt the preeminent Arab state in the Middle East. Egypt has contributed to world civilization in many ways during its 5,000 year history. Ancient Egyptian civilization is studied by Egyptologists and students in educational institutions all over the world. Scholars, students, and tourists come to Egypt from far and wide to visit the pyramids to learn more about Ancient Egyptian civilization."

As a Fulbright Lecturer, Dr. Husain co-taught four classes: he co-taught required undergraduate courses in Foreign Policy Analysis and International relations; and, he also co-taught a graduate course in International Relations Theory and a required Ph.D. course on Religion's Role in International Relations. In addition to teaching, Dr. Husain also wrote a paper entitled "Why Egypt Matters?" and co-wrote another paper entitled "American and Egyptian Cultures: A Brief Comparison." He says he plans "to revise these papers and publish them in peer-reviewed journals in the future." Additionally, Dr. Husain says he plans to "include the contents of these papers in the revised editions of my two books, Global Islamic Politics and Global Issues: Islam and the Muslim World."



Dr. Husain says his highlight in Egypt "were going on field trips, attending seminars organized by the Fulbright Commission, and co-teaching the Ph.D. course with the former Chairman of Political Science at Cairo University." His field trips included trips to the pyramids in Giza, Sakkara, Memphis, and Dahshur, a walking tour of Old Cairo, visiting the White Desert, and climbing Mount Sinai to watch the sun rise, and a trip to Alexandria and its famed Library. The Fulbright Commission also organized seminars for Fulbright participants, where, according to Dr. Husain, noted "professors, archeologists, pollsters, novelists, artists, architects, and newspaper owners" spoke on a host of topics. According to Dr. Husain, the entire experience was exhilarating and USA faculty should apply for a Fulbright Teaching Grant.

Dr. Richard Hillyer's Scholarly Success

HAMLET FAMOUSLY SAYS, "THE PLAY'S THE THING," BUT JUST WHAT "thing," really? To find out, you might want to ask students in Dr. Richard Hillyer's Shakespeare and Renaissance classes. Dr. Richard Hillyer is an assistant professor with two peer-reviewed books in three years at USA who has quickly garnered a loyal student following. Indeed, listen to what USA English major Hannah Bruner has to say about courses: "Dr. Hillyer is an excellent professor! I have taken three of his classes--in fact, I'm currently in his Renaissance class--and have enjoyed and learned a lot in all of them. Dr. Hillyer is passionate about the literature he teaches, and I think his appreciation for authors and pieces of literature rubs off on the students. He knows so much about the literature, the authors, and their world." Dr. Hillyer garners such praise no doubt because his course lectures are fueled by on-going scholarship.

Dr. Hillyer's first book, *Hobbes and His Poetic Contemporaries: Cultural Transmission in Early Modern English*, was published in 2007 and required Dr. Hillyer to master Hobbes's philosophical milieu and its pre-history, which is quite an accomplishment given the fact that he has never taken a course in philosophy. His second book, *Sir Philip Sidney: Cultural Icon*, was published in 2010 and enabled Dr. Hillyer to examine Sidney's critical standing over time as the "Renaissance Man"—the highs and lows of his reputation and his relation to understandings of British culture.

With two books already published by Palgrave-MacMillan, what is next for Dr. Hillyer? Well, in good scholarly fashion he is hard at work on his third book, an examination of "the word care and its derivatives." For this project, he pays close attention to how Renaissance writers used the word "care" in their texts.

Dr. Hillyer was born in North London, England, and he attended Exeter University for his undergraduate education. He came to the University of Michigan, where he earned his MA and PhD in literature. Prior to coming to USA, Dr. Hillyer taught classes at the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, and the University of Minnesota at Duluth. In spare time, he listens to music, plays guitar, and writes poetry. About teaching at USA, Dr. Hillyer says "I like having really good colleagues—that's a real pleasure."

Dr. Hillyer's quick wit, easy going personality, research productivity, and classroom success have won the admiration and respect of his colleagues in the English department. Dr. Pat Cesarini, interim chair of English, is quick to praise Dr. Hillyer as "a consummate scholar in the humanities, someone who has thoroughly mastered the critical tradition around his chosen subjects, and whose books have made valuable contributions to the field of Early Modern English studies. His writing is at once deeply learned and unusually graceful. His combination of extremely close textual interpretation with his grasp of the broader sweep of cultural and historical context is consistently impressive and exciting."

Modest about his abilities in the classroom, Dr. Hillyer says, "I feel I routinely do a pretty good job of teaching Shakespeare's plays, my chief task." In the classroom, Dr. Hillyer says he tries to teach students "good close reading skills," and his students will tell you that he is a stickler for correct grammar and punctuation in the service of well-developed, logical arguments in their writing assignments.

According to Dr. Cesarini, "Dr. Hillyer's ease with students, and his skill at easing them into some of the most challenging literature in the curriculum, are always on display; he makes a considerable effort to involve students in discussion, despite the large enrollments in his classes, and he has a wonderful, understated sense of humor and play that students both appreciate and emulate, with his encouragement. Dr. Hillyer's assignments are rigorous and his standards are high, and students seem to appreciate this, as reflected in their evaluations of him."



Dr. Hillyer says his favorite Shakespeare play is typically whichever one he is teaching at any particular moment, but if he had to choose a favorite it would probably be *Antony and Cleopatra*. Hannah Bruner says she has particularly enjoyed studying *Hamlet* in his classes: "I read this play in high school, but I have a new appreciation for it after studying it in Dr. Hillyer's class. He encouraged us to look beneath the surface of the play, and he really illuminated the richness of theme, language, and symbolism in *Hamlet*." That is high praise indeed for a faculty member, and the College of Arts and Sciences is stronger for having hard working professors like Dr. Hillyer, professors whose love for teaching and conducting significant research helps to inspire students like Hannah Bruner.

Alumni Spotlight

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA HAS RECEIVED APPROVAL FROM THE Alabama Commission on Higher Education to add a new health administration and policy concentration within its existing master's degree in Public Administration.

The Health Administration and Policy concentration is comprised of 12 hours of course work, which will be taken instead of the 12 hours of electives now required of all Master's of Public Administration students.

The four required courses include health policy, health administration, health care budgeting and a seminar on current issues in health administration and policy.

USA told ACHE officials that many of the current MPA students in the health care field were interested in this specialty within the degree. These students see this specialty as an additional credential to facilitate their career advancement. Two of the four health care focused courses are already offered online, with plans to offer the other courses online in the future. The third will be offered online this summer.

Dr. Andrzej Wierzbicki, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said, "We are very excited that we will be able to offer the new Health Administration and Policy Concentration in our currently existing Master of Public Administration program in the College of Arts and Sciences. This concentration, which has been recently approved by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, is the University of South Alabama's response to the growing demand for this specialty within the MPA program among those graduate students who are seeking to advance their careers in health care professions in our region."

Dr. Nader Entessar, professor and chair of the department of political science and criminal justice, said, "Health care management will continue to be a significant field in the United States for years to come. The Health Administration

and Policy concentration in the University of South Alabama's Master of Public Administration program will allow interested individuals to receive needed education to serve as health care administrators in our region and beyond."

Dr. Joan Exline, associate vice president for institutional research, planning and assessment said, "ACHE reviews proposed concentrations to ensure a reasonable fit with the degree program and Health Policy Administration is a natural fit with the MPA program."

Dr. Exline also serves as an adjunct faculty member in the new concentration.

For more information about the program, contact Dr. Sam Fisher at (251) 460-7204 or sfisher@jaguar1.usouthal.edu



Senator Ben Brooks

Dean's Letter Winter 2010



Dr. Andrzej Wierzbicki
Dean College of Arts and Sciences

Greetings from the Dean's Office of the College of Arts and Sciences at USA! This issue of our newsletter highlights exciting accomplishments of our students, alumni, and faculty. The lead article focuses on Dr. Bob Shipp's appointments to two significant posts that provide oversight for Alabama's coastal environment. First, he has been appointed to

serve on the state of Alabama's Conservation and Natural Resources Advisory Board, and second, he has been named one of two Alabama scientists who, along with some other Gulf Coast scientists, will help oversee allocations from a \$500 million research fund set up by BP. Dr. Shipp has a long and distinguished scientific record of accomplishments in Marine Sciences and conservation, and all of us in the College of Arts and Sciences applaud his selection to these two important posts.

Another article describes the Fulbright experiences of Dr. Zohair Husain, Associate Professor of Political Science, who went to Egypt's Cairo University last year to teach. Congratulations to Dr. Husain for being selected for the Fulbright Teaching Grant. I hope that Dr. Husain's very positive Fulbright experiences discussed in this article will inspire other Arts and Sciences faculty members to seek Fulbright opportunities.

The article on Dr. Richard Hillyer, Assistant Professor of English, highlights his exciting scholarly productivity in the short time that he has been a faculty member at USA. Dr. Hillyer teaches classes on Shakespeare and the British Renaissance, and students are praising Dr. Hillyer's success as a teacher.

A regular feature of the newsletter is a story on an Arts and Sciences alumnus who is making a difference in her or his profession. Alabama State

Senator Ben Brooks graduated from USA in 1980, and he has been a leader in Mobile and now at the state level since earning his law degree in 1983.

Two of our current students sure to make a difference in peoples' lives are also featured: Kaila Mattson, a Chemistry major, and Ayesha Jaleel, a double major in Foreign Languages (Spanish) and Biomedical Sciences. Both students went abroad to study this past summer. Kaila's journey took her to two cutting-edge chemistry labs in Germany, and Ayesha went to Madrid to continue her study of Spanish, thanks to the generous support of the Caldwell Scholarship she received.

And, finally, I hope you will appreciate the exciting faculty and student news in the College, including the reports on the Tri State Dean's Conference and the wonderful new Glass Arts facility that is part of the Department of Visual Arts.

This newsletter's purpose is to inform you about the outstanding accomplishments of our faculty, students, alumni, and supporters. I am happy to share their accomplishments with you. College of Education.

Student Spotlight



Kaila Mattson: Research and Study Abroad

CHEMISTRY MAJOR KAILA MATTSON LIKENS SCIENCE TO "CAFFEINE" AS SHE FINDS BOTH "ADDICTING AND ENERGIZING." A SENIOR FROM Wisconsin, Kaila came to USA after her positive experiences in Mobile with the America's Junior Miss Scholarship Program. Given her academic success to date at USA, one could say that she has also found Mobile, "addicting and energizing." This past summer, Kaila added to her impressive undergraduate repertoire by spending about 80 days in Germany, feeding her science habit by conducting chemistry research in two different labs, one in Bochum and the other in Erlangen.

When she first enrolled at USA, Mattson had planned to participate in Study Abroad, but she realized last spring that working in a research lab in another country was particularly ideal for her career goals as the international research experience would help her to grow academically and culturally in new ways. With the help of her Honors Thesis mentor, Dr. Jim Davis, professor of Chemistry, Kaila was able to contact key German researchers in the field of ionic liquids, and making these contacts led to the summer research invitations for Kaila.

Kaila had never been out of the United States, so her foray into Germany included culture shock. Indeed, she does not speak German, so the language barrier created some difficulties. Moreover, she did not initially have access to the Internet, and she did not have an international cell phone. Nevertheless, she says she thrust herself into the opportunity and is grateful to have had the chance to do the research and to travel on weekends to the Czech Republic, Austria, France, and the Netherlands.

In Bochum, Kaila worked in the lab of Dr. Anja Verena-Mudring, where she conducted research on ionic liquid crystals. In Erlangen, she worked in the lab of Dr. Peter Wasserscheid, another world leader in ionic liquid chemistry. Kaila did research on ionic liquid synthesis and optimization for the procedure for that synthesis. She says she also worked on some hydrogenation reactions in Erlangen, where the language barriers were fewer.

Kaila credits Dr. Davis for enabling her to have the wonderful research experience in Germany. According to Kaila, Dr. Davis "[went] out on a limb for me to provide me with this opportunity to go abroad." Kaila has been doing research with Dr. Davis since her freshman year at USA when she was assigned to work with him as part of her Honors Chemistry Lab course. According to Kaila, there is a difference between the University lab experience, the University Chemistry class experience, and the research lab experience, and she says her education at "USA has thankfully prepared me for all three."

Back at USA for the fall 2010 semester, Kaila has been working on her Honors Senior Thesis with Dr. Davis. According to Dr. Davis, "While there is a long list of attributes I could note with respect to Kaila, the one that has impressed me the most is her creativity within the field. In the sixteen or so years I've been doing research in an undergraduate institution, she is the first student who has ever suggested to me original ideas for research directions--this is normally the central skill with which graduate school is intended to inculcate an individual.... [S]he's clearly very far ahead of the curve, and she has a very promising future ahead of her as an academician in her own right."

Kaila's goal is to go to a top graduate program in Chemistry. Towards that end, she has recently completed a National Science Foundation Fellowship proposal that will help her pay for graduate school if she receives the award. Her research experience in Germany should certainly help her chances as should the Goldwater Scholarship that she received last spring semester and the importance of the two peer-reviewed chemistry articles she has co-authored.

Kaila chose to come to USA in part because she wanted to challenge herself by getting out of her comfort zone. As she completes her senior year at USA, Kaila has certainly been successful in meeting the academic challenges and in setting a great example for what Arts and Sciences majors can achieve at USA when they likewise get addicted and energized by their majors.



Ayesha Jaleel: Study Abroad

SENIOR AYESHA JALEEL RECEIVED THE JAMES AND IVEL CALDWELL SCHOLARSHIP IN THE SPRING 2010 SEMESTER, WHICH ENABLED her to go to Spain this past summer for Study Abroad. Back at South for her senior year of college, Ayesha is so happy that she received the Caldwell award and that she had the opportunity to take three Spanish courses in Madrid.

Ayesha is someone who seeks to seize educational opportunities. One major is not enough for this pre-med student. Indeed, Ayesha is double-major in Foreign Languages and Literatures and Biomedical Sciences. Moreover, she chose the added challenges of being in the Honors Program, and she is currently working on her Honors Senior Thesis with Dr. Richard Sykora of the Department of Chemistry. Her success in meeting the academic commitments required of her helps explain why Ayesha was selected for the Caldwell

Award and why Dr. Susan McCready, director of International Studies, called Ayesha "an intellectual risk taker" at the Caldwell Award Ceremony. Rather than playing it safe, Ayesha has chosen to try to get as much as she can from her undergraduate academic experiences.

This approach has paid off for Ayesha as she has already been accepted into medical school at USA and at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. She says her foreign language training has been very important to her success as she did not want to be just a "science major." According to Ayesha, "Spanish is important in any career."

The department of Foreign Languages and Literatures requires its majors to do Study Abroad, and Ayesha is thankful to have had the experience. The three classes she took in Madrid were supplemented by weekend exciting field trips to Granada and Salamanca. In addition to the classes, Ayesha says memorable experiences include visiting the Alhambra, museums, and, also, the time spent with her host family in Madrid: "They do not speak English, so I had to only speak Spanish with them.... They helped me improve my Spanish, and the food was really great! ... Everyday was something new and different ... Home cooked meals are awesome." The Caldwell Scholarship made the Study Abroad experience possible, and the time in Madrid was invaluable, Ayesha says, because it provided her with the opportunity for independence while immersing herself in the rich culture of Spain.

Back at South for the fall 2011 semester, Ayesha is working hard to complete her double major. In her Senior Seminar in Foreign Languages and Literatures, she is writing a comparative term-paper on Islamic influences on health care in Spain and India. In addition, she is also working on her Honors Thesis with Dr. Sykora, who recently won the College of Arts and Sciences Junior Faculty Research Award. According to Dr. Sykora, Ayesha's chemistry work for her Senior Honors Thesis centers aspects of synthesis, structural characterization, and photoluminescence of lanthanide compounds. Ayesha's work, Dr. Sykora says, is part of a larger research project in his lab that "will build upon the fundamental knowledge in the area of bimetallic catalysts and lay the framework for future studies leading towards alternative energy sources. The development of next-generation gold catalysts to increase the efficiency of fuel cells has the potential to help alleviate our current energy crisis." Being involved in this potentially revolutionary work only adds to Ayesha's intense academic preparation, preparation that should make Ayesha a very well rounded medical student next fall.

Faculty & Student News

The Department of Chemistry held a dedication service for a Student Lounge to honor the late **Thomas "T. G." Jackson**, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry.

Dr. Boris Kalinin, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, has had two articles accepted for publication in the prestigious *Annals of Mathematics*. One article is entitled, "Livsic theorem for matrix cocycles" and the second article is titled "Nonuniform measure rigidity" and is co-authored by Dr. Kalinin, Anatole Katok, and F. Rodriguez Hertz.

History and Philosophy double major **Matthew Peterson** has been accepted to Harvard Law School as well as to several other prestigious law schools for the fall.

Dr. Nicole Carr, Associate Professor of Sociology, was named the University's director of Student Academic Success and Retention.

Dr. Sandra Stenson, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, received a substantial award, \$387,000, from the National Science Foundation's MRI Program to purchase a state of the art mass spectrometer equipped with an ion trap and UHPLC front-end.

Dr. Matthew Reichert, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, was named one of 43 scientists and engineers in the nation to be awarded an AFOSR Award through its Young Investigator Research Program. The \$231,000 award will allow for him to purchase necessary equipment to continue his research program.

Dr. Joseph Mozur, Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures, published a peer-reviewed translation of *The Dead Feel No Pain*, a novel by the Belarusian author Vasil Byka. The Edwin Mellen Press published Dr. Mozur's book.

Dr. Nicole Amare, Associate Professor of English, co-wrote the textbook *Technical Editing in the 21st Century* with **Dr. Barry Nowlin** of USA and Dr. Jean Hollis Weber, a scientific and technical writer who lives in Australia. The book was published by Prentice Hall.

Hanne Anderson, Spring 2010 USA Graduate with a double major in History and International Studies entered the MA Program in International Peace & Security Program at King's College London this fall semester. Hanne's MA Program is housed in the School of Social Science and Public Policy.

English major **Hannah Bruner** participated in USA's University Committee on Undergraduate Research program (UCUR) this summer, and her research paper was selected for the Best Paper/Portfolio Award. Hannah will represent USA at the National Committee on Undergraduate Research Conference in Ithaca, New York, in April 2011. Hannah's UCUR paper is titled "Time is your Misfortune": Temporality and Fatalism in Faulkner's Fiction."

P. T. Paul (MA in English, 2009) published poetry and essays from her master's thesis in the book, *To Live & Write in Dixie* (Negative Capability Press, 2010). This fall, Paul's Master's thesis was chosen to represent the College of Arts and Sciences in the Humanities and Fine Arts in the CSGS Master's thesis award competition.


Several Physics Department faculty members and students gave eight presentations at the 77th Annual Meeting of the South East Section of the American Physical Society on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. **Dr. Paul Helminger**, Professor of Physics, made a presentation as did **Dr. Merrill Jenkins**, also a Professor of Physics. **Dr. Romulus Godang**, Assistant Professor of Physics, chaired a panel session and presented research with his students **Christopher Buchanan** and **Shannon Eynon**. Likewise, **Dr. Albert Gapud**, Assistant Professor of Physics, presented research at the conference, and two students whose research he supervised, **Ozarfar Gafarov** and **Sunhee Moraes**, also presented results of their research.

Dr. David Gartman, Professor of Sociology, delivered a paper, "Le Corbusier and the Model T," at the "Art, Volume and Movement: The Cultures of Architecture and Automobile Design" conference held in conjunction with the Mondial de l'Auto Paris (Paris Auto Show).

Dr. Alvin P. Rainosek, Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, marked his 40th year anniversary as a faculty member at the University of South Alabama this year.

Dr. Ethan Fishman, Professor of Political Science and Criminal Justice, has co-authored a book titled *The Dilemmas of American*. Dr. Fishman's co-author is Dr. Kenneth Deutsch, Professor of Political Science at the State University of New York at Geneseo.

Several Arts & Sciences faculty members are serving as committee chairpersons on the USA Faculty Senate this year: **Dr. Jim Connors**, Assistant Professor of Earth Sciences, chairs the Faculty Senate; **Dr. Jack Shelley-Tremblay**, Associate Professor of Psychology, chairs the Senate's Planning and Development Committee; **Dr. Sam Fisher**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Criminal Justice, chairs the Senate's University Policies and Faculty Handbook Committee; **Dr. Doug Marshall**, Associate Professor of sociology and anthropology, chairs the Senate's Environmental Quality Committee; and, **Dr. Phil Carr**, Associate Professor of Anthropology, chairs the Senate's Academic Development and Mentoring Committee.



Please submit story ideas,
news and suggestions to
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The 2010 College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Lecturer and Merit Awards

THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES DEAN'S LECTURE AND AWARDS CEREMONY TOOK PLACE ON 2 DECEMBER 2010.

Dr. Susan McCready, Professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures, was featured as this year's Dean's Lecturer. Dr. McCready's Lecture was titled "The President, the Marquise and the Postmistress, or Who Needs Literature?" Dr. Doug Haywick, Associate Professor of Geology, received the Award for Outstanding Service. Dr. Richard Sykora, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, received the Award for Junior Faculty Scholarship. The Awards for Outstanding Teaching went to Dr. Murlene Clark, Associate Professor of Geology, Dr. Richard Rogers, part-time faculty member in Chemistry, and Dr. Michael Gordon, former Assistant Professor of Psychology.

Tri-State Dean's Conference

IN APRIL 2010, USA'S COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES HOSTED THE TRI STATE DEANS CONFERENCE. THIS SPECIAL TWO-DAY EVENT BROUGHT TOGETHER Deans and other university administrators from Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Two panel sessions featuring USA Deans and Administrators focused on "Meeting Resource Challenges in Difficult Times" and "The Course Re-Design Initiative." There was also a Round Table session and a presentation and tour by Dr. Greg Waselkov of the Delchamps Center for Archaeological Studies and a presentation and tour by Dr. George Crozier, Dr. John Valentine, and Dr. Sean Powers of the Dauphin Island Sea Lab and Estuarium.

Dr. Jimmy Williams, Associate Dean, Multicultural Affairs, at the University of Alabama attended the conference and reports that he enjoyed the meeting because it was a productive way to discuss a "number of important higher education issues." According to Dr. Williams, he found the research report presented by Dr. Russ Lea was particularly valuable. Dr. Williams would like to see attendance by even more colleges and universities at the next Tri State Deans Conference.

Dr. Lois Wims, Mercy College's Dean of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences and former Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at USA, helped set up the conference and found the round table portion and course redesign session especially helpful. For Dr. Wims, seeing "[h]ow leadership is approached from different disciplinary backgrounds was fascinating."

New Glass Arts Facility at USA

MS. RENE CULLER IS A VERITABLE MAGICIAN WITH HOT, MOLTEN GLASS: INTO THE FURNACE, OUT OF THE FURNACE, TRANSFORMING THE SHAPE AND COLOR of the glass with fire, wet newspaper, and metal tools. Ms. Culler started with a light orange gooey glob of molten glass at the end of a long metal tube, and through her artistry, a beautiful orange vase took shape as colorful tiles were imbedded into the sides of the vase during the glass blowing demonstration at the Fire and Flash Open House at USA's new Glass Arts Building in mid November 2010.

At the Open House, Culler, Assistant Professor of Visual Arts, and visiting artist, Professor David Keens of the University of Texas at Arlington, gave demonstrations of the art of glass blowing to help highlight the new artistic possibilities available to USA students in the Department of Visual Arts.

President Gordon Moulton was instrumental in bringing the glass arts concentration in Visual Arts to the University. At the Open House, the President noted that everyone—on campus and off—has an appreciation for beautiful creations of glass. Glass art by USA students testify to the wonderful possibilities this new facility offers for everyone at USA and in the community.

Like President Moulton, Jason Guynes, chairperson of the Department of Visual Arts, is very proud of the new Glass Arts Building. According to Guynes, the facility raises the profile of USA's Visual Arts programs in the arts community. Indeed, USA is the only public institution in the southeast with a Glass Arts program, and Guynes says the state-of-the-art building is one of the "nicest facilities in the nation."



Student Glass Projects



Ms. Rene Culler, Assistant Professor, USA



Professor David Keens, Visiting Artist



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