Dr. Cindy Wilson has been appointed interim director of the USA Baldwin County Campus. Wilson will fill the position formerly held by Dr. Phillip Norris, who will retire Nov. 23. Wilson earned her doctorate in counselor education from the University of Alabama. She came to USA in 1993 as an assistant professor and as assistant director of USA Baldwin County. She was appointed associate director of USA Baldwin County in 2001.

Wilson, who is active in Baldwin County organizations, was recently selected to participate in the first class of the USA Academic Leadership program.

Norris, who has been with the University for 33 years, was instrumental in developing the Baldwin County Campus, where he is active in numerous community organizations. He currently serves on the boards of the Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce and the Weeks Bay Foundation.
Dr. Mark Gillespie
Receives Alumni Award from University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy

Gillespie’s major research interests include lung vascular cell biology and pathology, signal transduction pathways in regional vascular disease, and novel pharmacotherapeutic approaches in respiratory and cardiovascular disease.

He has garnered extramural funding through the National Institutes of Health and currently is the principal investigator on three NIH–supported grants with total funding of more than $3 million. In addition, he is the author of numerous scientific publications and serves as reviewer for many scientific journals.

Gillespie has served as a member or chairperson of numerous grant review committees for the National Institutes of Health and other funding agencies. Currently, he is the chair of the Pulmonary Circulation Assembly of the American Society.

Established in 2006, the Outstanding Graduate Alumni Award honors graduates of the program in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions to scholarship, education and research in the pharmaceutical sciences.

USA Remembers Dr. Satya Mishra

Dr. Satya N. Mishra

Dr. Satya N. Mishra, professor of mathematics and statistics, died Oct. 21 following a three-year battle with cancer.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Nutan Mishra; a son, Dr. Prachant Mishra; a daughter, Pallavi Shruti Mishra; a daughter-in-law, Angela Mishra; and grandchildren Dru and Marley.

He joined the University’s faculty in 1982 after earning his doctorate from Ohio State University. He earned his master’s degree in mathematics from Banaras Hindu University, the University of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He earned his bachelor of science degree in mathematics, physics and chemistry at the University of Gorakhpur in India.

At USA, Mishra was instrumental in helping to build the statistics wing of the department of mathematics and statistics. For many years, he served on the hiring, tenure and promotion committees and performed similar services for the University. He rose to the rank of associate professor in 1988 and professor in 1997.

From May 2001 through March 2009, Mishra served as the assistant to the chair overseeing all aspects of course scheduling and serving as acting chair. He retired from the University on Oct. 1.

Funeral services were held Oct. 23. The family requests that memorials be made to the American Cancer Society.

Bottle Creek Indian Mound Tour Set for Nov. 21

Reservations are being accepted for a Nov. 21 tour of the Bottle Creek Indian Mounds, the largest Mississippi chiefdom (AD 1200–1400) on the north–central Gulf Coast.

The pristine archaeological site is located on Mound Island inside the Mobile–Tensaw Delta in north Baldwin County.

At 9:30 a.m., the tour will leave from Bryant’s Landing, located off Highway 225 approximately two miles north of I-10 and south of Stockton. A 45-minute cruise up the Tensaw River aboard the Delta Explorer will be led by a crew from Blakeley State Park. Once on Mound Island, Dr. Greg Waselkov, director of the Center for Archaeological Studies, will lead a 90-minute walking tour, including climbing the largest mound, which stands 45 feet high.

Participants should wear hiking boots, or similar comfortable shoes, and bring cameras and binoculars, if desired. They should bring snacks, lunch, drinks and plenty of water, as well as jackets for the open-air boat ride. The Delta Explorer is not readily handicapped accessible, but there is a restroom on board. Bug spray will be provided for participants, if needed.

For reservations and more information, contact Blakeley State Park at (251) 626–5581. Cost is $30 per adult and teen and $15 for children 6–12 years of age.

For rides from the University, which will leave at 8:15 a.m., or a map with directions to Lower Bryant’s Landing, contact Bonnie Gums at (251) 460–6562, or e-mail bgums@jaguar1.usouthal.edu.
Physics Faculty, Students Give Eight Presentations at Regional Conference

The department of physics made a significant appearance at a recent conference sponsored by the American Physical Society (APS). The 77th Annual Meeting of the South East Section of APS was held this year on the campus of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 20-23. Four faculty members and four undergraduate students presented talks about their ongoing research projects in four separate sessions.

The conference featured 179 presentations in as many as four parallel sessions and hosted at least 200 attendees representing 77 institutions, both within the southeast region and beyond, including LSU, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, Florida State University, University of Alabama, North Carolina State University, and Georgia Institute of Technology.

USA physics students Christopher Buchanan and Shannon Eymon presented research work in high-energy, particle physics, supervised by Dr. Romulus Godang, assistant professor of physics, and Dr. Paul A. Helminger, professor of physics, at the 77th Annual Meeting of the South East Section of the American Physical Society held in Baton Rouge, La.

In sessions with their students, Godang presented “Search for Non-Standard Model CP-odd Higgs Boson,” while Gapud presented “Possible Free Flux Flow Phase in Single Crystals of Optimally Doped Ba(Fe1-xCox)2As2.”

Gafarov also chaired a session titled “Nuclear Physics, Mesons, and Quantum Gravity,” during which Dr. C. Merrill Jenkins, professor of physics, presented “Exploring the Use of the Alabama Supercomputing Authority Resources to Supplement CMS Monte Carlo Production.”

In the session titled “Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics,” Dr. Paul A. Helminger, professor of physics, presented “The Terahertz Spectrum of the v5/29 Dyad of Nitric Acid.” Jenkins’s work is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Alabama Supercomputing Authority.

“Deviations in Magnetoresistive Kohler’s Rule Due to Martensitic Transformation in V3Si”

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Planning an Intergenerational Festival

The USA Gerontology Club and Country Gables Assisted Living in Grand Bay will host its first Intergenerational Harvest Festival Saturday, Nov. 6, 2-6 p.m.

This free public event and family fun day is intended to promote intergenerational exchange in the community. It will be held at Country Gables Assisted Living, 12250 Hi Fields Road in the Dee/Dawes Community.

Various arts and crafts activities will be provided as well as face painting, a possible visit from a local petting zoo, jump zone, “old-fashioned bobbing for apples,” and much more. Many of the games will include chances to win prizes and offer opportunities for younger people to interact with senior citizens in the area.

For more information, call Robin Gregorius at (251) 367-2800, or e-mail Carey Driskell at careyd1105@aol.com.
The pleasure is mine!

“The opportunity to care for my co-workers and their families is one of the many rewards of working at the University of South Alabama.”

Amy Robinson, CRNP

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