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Mariners Connection

College of Coastal Georgia Newsletter

Mid-May 2011

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Good Luck for Soon-to-be Alumni from Coastal Bank of Georgia

During commencement rehearsal Friday afternoon, May 6, 20 surprised graduating students received gift cards for the campus bookstore from the Coastal Bank of Georgia in partnership with the College of Coastal Georgia Alumni Association. Kerry Huettner, Vice President for Treasury Management Services, and Elizabeth Weatherly, Assistant Vice President for Alumni and Annual Giving,

The Class of 2011 Graduates

Over 200 students marched as families proudly watched the commencement procession Saturday morning, May 7, in the Howard Coffin Gymnasium. The event marked an important milestone as Coastal Georgia awarded the first baccalaureate degrees conferred since the College was chartered in 1961. More than 65 four-year degrees were awarded in Business Administration, Nursing, Middle Grades Education and Early Childhood/Special Education.



In reviewing the commencement program Monday morning, College President Valerie Hepburn, Ph.D., noted, "Saturday's commencement represented great achievements for the College and our graduates: the largest number of graduates, the first baccalaureate degrees, an exceptional number of honor graduates - and a host of wonderful accomplishments by each individual student."

Approximately 400 students will graduate in the Class of 2011.

Dr. Ntungwa Maasha, Professor of Physics and Geology, served as Grand Marshal of the procession of faculty and students. After welcoming remarks by Dr. Hepburn, graduating students Levi Oglesby (B.S. in Nursing) of Brunswick and Krissy Hamilton (B.S. in Education) of Jesup provided inspirational remarks and Anthony Bottita (B.S. in Business Administration) of Kingsland and Hilary Pulos (Associate of Arts, Modern Foreign Language, and Associate of Science, Health and Physical Education), also of Jesup, delivered the class charges.

Former Regent James A. Bishop, Esq., introduced the

presented the lucky graduates with their gift cards and words of welcome from the Alumni Association.

May Birthdays



- 16 - Dorothy Edwards
- 16 - Sheila Ledford
- 17 - Greg Carver
- 18 - Francisco Mendoza
- 22 - Summer Curran
- 28 - Laura Ricard
- 28 - Carl Gabrini

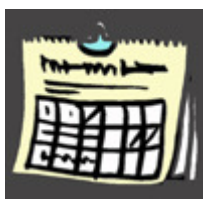
New Staff

Betsy Harris
Athletics

Frankie Goff
Campus Police

Summer Curran
Campus Police

Campus Calendar



MAY

15 - Coastal Youth Symphony Spring Concert

3 p.m.
Glynn Academy Auditorium
Brunswick

15 - Rhythm on the River Outdoor Concert

6-8 p.m.
Queen Square
Brunswick

15 - A Little Light Music Outdoor Concert

7-9 p.m.
Lighthouse Grounds
St. Simons Island

commencement speaker, Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., of the University System of Georgia. Bishop and Regent William H. NeSmith assisted Dr. Hepburn in conferring the degrees as the candidates were presented by Dr. Phillip Mason, Vice President for Academic Affairs. Following the degree presentations, Brunswick City Commissioner Mark Spaulding '81 greeted the new alumni.

The Golden Isles Community Concert Band, under the direction of Mickey Wendel, provided music for the commencement program.

Read more about Commencement 2011:

[College reaches milestone](#)

[College confers 1st four-year degrees](#)

[Graduation will be a first](#)

[Benchmark for Coastal Georgia](#)

College Golfers Receive All-Region Honors

The varsity golf teams - all freshmen - not only won their regional tournaments at the end of April, but individual members were recognized for All-Region honors as well.



Christian Liggins

Dylan Freeman (Athens/Oconee County High School) was named to the All NJCAA Men's Region 17 Team for 2011. Freeman was an inaugural recipient of the Mary and Jack Dinos Golf Scholarship, beginning fall 2010.

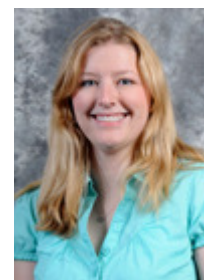
Christian Liggins (Smithville/Lee County High School), also a Dinos Scholarship recipient, Jaclyn Harten (Tifton/Tift County High School), Shea Able (Hoboken/Brantley County High School) and Colbi Tyre (Waycross/Ware County Magnet School) were all named to the All NJCAA Women's Region 17 Team for 2011.

Both teams are now preparing for the NJCAA National Championships May 15-20. The women's golf team travels to Daytona, Florida, to compete at LPGA National. The men will compete at Goose Pond Colony Resort, Scottsboro, Alabama. Both events will be 72-hole championships.

Read more about the [Region 17 tournament](#).

Dr. Kimberly Pause Tucker Elected to State DNR Coastal Advisory Council

Dr. Kim Tucker, Assistant Professor of Biology, has been confirmed as a research member of the state DNR's Coastal Advisory Council, representing the College of Coastal Georgia.



The Council, which meets quarterly, includes representatives of the community, research institutions, governmental and non-governmental

19-20 - United Way of Coastal Georgia
"Days of Caring"

20 - Alumni Advisory Committee
2 p.m.
Health & Science Building,
Room 303

21 - Turtle Crawl Triathlon & Nest Fest
Benefiting the Georgia
Sea Turtle Center
Jekyll Island

26 - Blue & White Visit Day

29 - Jazz in the Park
Phil Morrison Trio
7-9 p.m.
Neptune Park
St. Simons Island

**30 - Memorial Holiday
Campus Closed**

**May 30-June 2 - Cheerleading
Practice and Tryouts**

**31 - New Student Orientation
Service Opportunity**

River City Community
Animal Hospital
seeks volunteers for May.
<http://rccah.org/volunteering/>

**Walk Across the University
System of Georgia**

For an entrance fee of \$5 you will be issued a pedometer to count your steps. Steps are turned in each Thursday by noon, then you reset your pedometer for the next week. Count all of the steps you take for the week - not just while you are at the College. All of the steps for the week from each participant will be added together to see where we "walked." On Friday afternoon an email will be sent to let everyone know how many steps we took as a group and which institutions we "visited."

We will virtually visit 37 institutions, research units, and the Camden Campus on our walk. For example, there are 82,720 steps from the Brunswick Campus to the Camden Campus. Once we complete the entire trip (that's 3,801,710 steps in all!), the person who walked the most steps will

environmental organizations, regional development centers, and county and municipal governments. One of the Council's primary functions is to set themes and funding criteria for the Coastal Incentive Grant Program.

"Conservation of natural areas is very important to me. I am passionate about education and public outreach," Dr. Tucker said. "As a scientist, I believe we have a responsibility to inform the public about environmental phenomena, as well as how our actions can impact our environment. My participation on the Coastal Advisory Council is one way I can accomplish that."

Dr. Tucker teaches Biology, Genetics, and Marine Biology at the College. She served as director of the 2011 Pinova Coastal Georgia Regional Science and Engineering Fair. Prior to joining the faculty of Coastal Georgia, she worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the [University of South Florida College of Marine Science](#) from 2007-2010, researching viral metagenomics in various environmental systems.

A paper by Dr. Tucker, entitled "Diversity and distribution of single-stranded DNA phages in the North Atlantic Ocean" is currently featured on the International Society for Microbial Ecology (ISME) Journal webpage, and is one of the top 10 most downloaded articles this month: <http://www.nature.com/ismej/index.html>

Foundation Annual Fund Campaign Update

As of May 9, annual fund campaign efforts had achieved 50.5% of the 2011 goal. Shooting for \$2,155,000, the Foundation has raised \$1,089,483.

According to the Advancement Office analysis, the Alumni Scholarship challenge is at 81.9% of goal (\$4,095 towards a goal of \$5,000), the community campaign is at 33.8% of goal (\$121,901 towards a goal of \$360,000) and major gifts has achieved 73.9% of goal (\$887,925 towards a goal of \$1.2 million.)

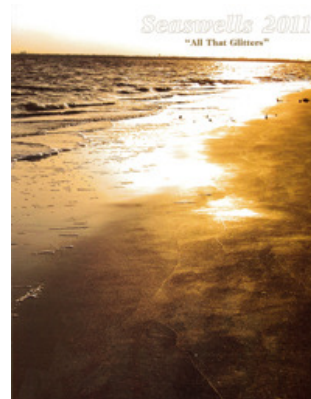
Faculty and staff contributions are at 13.6% with \$4,087 collected on a \$30,000 goal for 2011.

Read more about the [2011 Annual Fund Campaign](#).

Students Publish *Seaswells* 2011

"All That Glitters" is the theme of the 2011 issue of the College's national award-winning art and literary magazine, first published in 1966. Work on this year's magazine began during fall term 2010 and culminated in the "first copy" release party on campus April 28, one of 50 signature events celebrating the College's 50th anniversary.

The publication encompasses art, poetry, prose, photography and



win a prize.

Walk Across the USG will start on Friday, June 3.

Beginning May 23, you can pay your entrance fee and pick up your pedometer from Gale Barr in the Administration Building in Brunswick or from Stacy Ward at the Camden Campus. Email your weekly steps walked to staffassembly@ccga.edu or turn in the Walk Across the USG step log to Gale Barr or Stacy Ward by noon each Thursday.

Turn in your first week's steps on Thursday, June 9.

Walking 10,000 steps a day is now widely recommended by exercise experts as a target number for improving your health. How far is 10,000 steps? The average person's stride length is approximately 2.5 feet long. That means it takes just over 2,000 steps* to walk one mile, and 10,000 steps is close to 5 miles. A sedentary person may only average 1,000 to 3,000 steps a day. For these people adding steps has many health benefits. A reasonable goal for most people is to increase average daily steps each week by 500 per day until you can easily average 10,000 per day. Start training now for the June 3 start date.

For more information, contact Gale Barr.

computer-enhanced imagery submitted by students, faculty, and staff, selected for inclusion by juries in each category. Shandy Stubbs (Brunswick/Glynn Academy), an English major, served as editor-in-chief.

Sharon Bartkovich, Associate Professor of English and *Seaswells* faculty advisor, says, "This 2011 edition may be our best ever. I feel privileged, year after year, to be part of a magazine that showcases our immensely talented student body. I also feel blessed that *Darien News* goes to such extraordinary lengths, year after year, to meet our exacting expectations and to produce a magazine of which the entire community can be proud."

Read more about the prize-winning students in [Seaswells](#).



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

The College's new processional banners, displayed on stage during commencement.



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