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CCU Newsletter, July 14, 2003

Coastal Carolina University

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Software grant goes to Center

Coastal's Center for Marine and Wetland Studies has received a $273,777 grant from Seismic Micro-Technology, a software company that specializes in geoscience technology, for the installation of highly advanced computer software that will enhance Coastal's marine research capabilities.

The new software will be used primarily to interpret seismic reflection imagery of the ocean's subfloor gathered by the Center for Marine and Wetland Studies, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The software will be available in 10 computer workstations in the Center's GIS (geographical information systems) computer lab.

"This grant will give us the latest and best tools to help us analyze the prodigious quantity of data that we gather through the Center's many ongoing research projects," said Paul Gayes, professor of marine science and geology at Coastal and director of the Center.

The seismic imagery software that Coastal will receive was first developed for the oil and gas industry, which shares many of the techniques used by Center scientists and students to study the geometry of rock strata deep underneath the sea floor. The software has powerful three-dimensional and computational capabilities that will allow scientists to visualize and model seismic data at the highest resolution.

Coastal limits freshman enrollment

For the first time, freshman enrollment for the fall 2003 semester will be limited, according to an announcement by President Ron Ingle at the university's quarterly board meeting on June 20.

The decision was made in response to the unprecedented number of applications received by the university. By mid-June, Coastal had received more than 4,700 applications for 1,300 available slots. As of June 15, freshman admissions for the upcoming semester were up 21 percent over fall 2002. Coastal's residence hall capacity for the upcoming semester also has been reached.

Faced with the prospect of overcrowded classrooms and stretched resources, Coastal administrators decided to limit freshman admissions offers after June 30 only to qualified applicants from the immediate area. All other applicants may be considered for spring or fall 2004 admission.

"Record enrollment is a good problem to have, but we must make sure we don't compromise on the quality of the education our students receive," said Ingle.

More than 325 new students and 440 parents attended Coastal's first orientation session June 23 and 24. July 14 to 15 and July 28 and 29 are the next orientations for freshmen.

CCU Newsletter Publication Dates

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Coastal Carolina University's Board of Trustees has elected new officers for 2003-2004. The officers, who serve one-year terms, are: Fred F. DuBard Jr., chairman; William L. Lyles Jr., vice chairman; and Daniel W.R. Moore Sr., secretary.

DuBard lives in Florence where he is president and CEO of DuBard, Inc. and an owner of the Pee Dee Pride hockey team.

Lyles is president of Carolina Beer Company in Anderson. He has served on Coastal's Board of Trustees since 1993.

Moore, of North Myrtle Beach, owns Dan Moore Real Estate company, is a member of the YMCA executive committee and the North Myrtle Beach Zoning Board of Appeals.

Coastal's Board of Trustees has 17 members.

Sociology course will pair students with community service program

Sara Brallier is looking for a few good students - 15, to be exact. That's the number of spots in her summer course - Sociology 455 - that was added after the catalog went out. The class is an innovative program that will incorporate a service learning component to her sociology of aging class.

She was awarded a $6,000 grant through the Association for Gerontology in Higher Education and Generations Together at University of Pittsburgh, and Coastal matched that amount with in-kind funds.

The idea for the course, Brallier says, came about as a result of a previous grant study dealing with the responsiveness of health care systems to the local gay and lesbian community.

The July 14 to Aug. 15 class will work closely with older people with AIDS in Horry County, pairing with CARETEAM, a nonprofit organization that provides companionship, transportation, meal assistance, medical services, financial support and more.

Students who enroll will conduct a life history interview with an elderly person with AIDS. They will act as the person's "buddy" for the semester, providing social support through phone calls and visits.

Students would also be required to design a flyer describing their experiences to be used to recruit other students into CARETEAM's buddy program, and they will be required to present basic facts about HIV/AIDS and older adults in appropriate forums.

"If this program is successful, the department will offer a one-credit course, distinct from SOC 455, in which students can work as a buddy through CARETEAM," Brallier says.

More than 1,300 people have tested positive for the HIV virus in the three-county area of Horry, Georgetown and Brunswick, and CARETEAM serves about 500 of those, according to Valerie Harrington, who says that volunteers are always needed.

Seats are still available in the course, and faculty is asked to encourage interested students to register. For more information, contact Brallier at 349-2470.
“Summer at the Coast” for Junior Scholars, a two-week program for 16 rising ninth- and 10th-graders from throughout South Carolina, was hosted by Coastal’s College of Natural and Applied Sciences during the last half of June.

Physics professor Dennis Dinge was director of this summer’s program, in its 14th year. Coastal faculty members led the sessions, designed to help high school students develop an appreciation and understanding of science and social issues facing society.

Seminar and research topics included beach erosion, DNA technology, ecological chemistry, geological cycles, marine and salt marsh ecology, marine and wetlands biological communities, issues on aging, river and ocean water quality, and behind-the-scenes study at Ripley’s Aquarium.

In addition to classroom discussion, students participated in numerous field surveys of estuarine, beach and coastal environments; collected open ocean samples aboard the Coastal II, the university’s 43-foot research vessel; and conducted chemical and biological laboratory analysis of samples collected in the field.

Students also conducted research at Waite’s Island, a pristine barrier island near Little River. A portion of Waite’s Island was donated to Coastal in the early 1990s for the purpose of scientific research.

The program was designed for students recognized as Junior Scholars by the South Carolina State Department of Education. Junior Scholars are chosen during their eighth-grade year based on their high scholastic achievement and test scores.

The College of Natural and Applied Sciences initially invited all Junior Scholars to participate. Coastal’s “Summer at the Coast” for Junior Scholars program applicants are then selected based on a letter of recommendation from one of their teachers and an essay written by the student describing their interest in science and the coastal environment.

The continuing outreach project is an effort to improve physics education that is being taught in the surrounding five county area and includes such areas as Aiken, Hemingway, Georgetown and others.

Fifty new principals of South Carolina schools are expected to participate in the 18th annual Principal Induction Program Executive Institute at July 20-24 at Coastal.

The program is designed for first-year principals and offers courses to help them develop and improve leadership skills.
Coastal families celebrate 10 years of independence

Above left: Kayla Conner stuffs marshmallows in her mouth in the Chubby Bunny Contest. Above right: Danny Nicholson catches a water balloon. It was the Independence Day celebration held on June 25, a day for staff, faculty and families to appreciate Coastal's independence.

Above: Three participants of the Saltine whistling contest attempt to pucker up: Leighann Wharton, Boris Menier and Trixie Harrington. (None of them were able to whistle with crackers in their mouths.) Laura Hickman, to the right, celebrates the win of her Facilities Management Team.
Preston McKever-Floyd was recently elected vice chairman of the board of the Collaborative for Community Trust, a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing issues of social change.

The Collaborative is the conservator of the Modjeska Monteith Simkins House in Columbia. Modjeska Monteith Simkins (1899-1992) was an important leader of African-American public health reform, social reform and the civil rights movement in South Carolina. Her home serves as headquarters for the organization and is being established as a center dedicated to Simkins and her work.

Recent Coastal Carolina graduate Brandon Powell went 2-5 with two RBI in his professional baseball debut June 23, leading the Arizona Royals rookie league team to a 14-9 win over the Arizona Cubs. Powell, a Johnsonville native, was drafted by Kansas City in the 8th round of this year's major league draft. The second baseman set six school records during his four-year career with the Chanticleers.

Coastal’s cross country and women’s track standout Kara Koppel has been named Verizon/CoSIDA First Team Academic All-American for track and field/cross country. Koppel was on the ballot for the national honor after being named to the Academic All-District squad in May.

The awards have continued to roll in for Koppel. On April 30, she was awarded a NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, announced by the NCAA. The first Coastal athlete to earn the prestigious award, Koppel was one of 15 Division I and 29 overall student-athletes competing in NCAA-sanctioned winter sports to win the $6,900 award. She also was the 2002 Big South Conference Cross Country and 2003 Big South Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Scholar-Athlete of the Year, sweeping the three awards for the second consecutive year.

Nelljean Rice spent nearly a month in San Diego, Calif., on a Sasakawa Fellowship from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. She participated in the National Faculty Development Institute on “Incorporating Japanese Studies into the Undergraduate Curriculum,” at San Diego State University.

The multi-disciplinary program assists faculty members who want to incorporate information about Japan into the courses they teach. Coastal Carolina participates in an exchange program with Tokyo Denki University in Japan, and recently began offering Japanese as a foreign language option.

Coastal People

To the Campus Community:

We wish to thank our many campus colleagues and friends for the friendships and kindnesses extended to us over the years. We have fond memories of each of you, and wish your continued good health and happiness.

We look forward to seeing you at various University events in the future.

Godspeed.

Betty and Bob Squatriglia

Dear Friends,

I wanted to thank everyone at Coastal for their prayers, concerns, donations, love and support during the most difficult time of my life. None of you will ever know how much you helped me and my family, and I just want all of you to know that it will never be forgotten. I am so proud to be a part of this College and I am honored to have all of you as friends.

Penny Bell

baseball/basketball coach at Wilson Hall.

He and his wife Mary Beth live in Myrtle Beach with their two sons, Brandon and Casey.

Also new in the Athletics Department is Bruce Gregory, the new director of Athletics Compliance.

Gregory was assistant director of compliance and student-athlete support services at Eastern Michigan University. Previously he had been director of football operations at the same university.

He earned his undergraduate degree in physical education from Western Maryland College, and is a candidate for a master's degree at Eastern Michigan University. He and his wife Tracy have a daughter, Megan, 14, and a son, Brian, 12.

Mark Roach has been named the new chief of staff for athletics. He was a 2002 Alumni of the Year.

Roach earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Coastal in 1984 and a master's degree in sports management in 1993 from the United States Sports Academy.

He was the coordinator of athletics and physical education for Horry County Schools. Roach served as Carolina Forest High School athletic director, head baseball coach at Socastee High School and Sumter High School and head baseball coach at Wilson Hall.

He and his wife Mary Beth live in Myrtle Beach with their two sons, Brandon and Casey.

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This Issue:

- University limits freshman enrollment
- Center gets software grant
- Sociology course to help AIDS patients
- CCU grad named Academic All-American

Orientation

Freshmen – July 14-15 and 28-29
Transfers – Aug. 14

Everyone has a role to play in Orientation, whether it's giving directions, answering questions, or just being friendly!