Coastal will host its third Celebration of Inquiry, a university-wide academic conference designed to unite the learning community in cross-disciplinary discussion of a common theme – “Seeing the World Anew” – on Wednesday, Feb. 11 to Friday, Feb. 13. All conference sessions are free and open to the public.

The conference will feature internationally renowned futurist/inventor Ray Kurzweil as the keynote speaker Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. in Wheelwright Auditorium. He will appear live through teleportation, which enables people to appear live, life-sized within an apparent 3-D environment in a remote location and achieve eye-to-eye contact with all participants.

Tickets for Kurzweil’s presentation have all been distributed, but two remote sites in Wall Auditorium and Wall 309 will simulcast the presentation. No tickets are required for these locations. The Wheelwright box office has established a “stand by” list for tickets on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you wish to add your name, contact the box office at 2502.

This year’s conference theme, “Seeing the World Anew,” is from the Albert Einstein quote: “No problem can ever be solved by the consciousness that created it. We must learn to see the world anew.”

Conference sessions will explore the theories, technologies and connections that have helped people to see the world in new ways. Systems thinking, multiple intelligences and other topics on this diverse subject will be considered during the three-day conference.

On Feb. 12 and 13 all regularly scheduled classes will not be held, and students will attend the sessions of the Celebration of Inquiry Conference. All regularly scheduled instructional time is not cancelled, but redirected to the sessions of the conference.

Students, faculty and staff, community leaders and educators will present more than 160 sessions on a wide range of topics that will include workshops, performances, panel discussions, lectures and other interactive formats that promote inquiry.

Highlights of the conference include the “Walk Through Time,” a one-mile series of panels that tells the story of Earth’s evolution, plus dramatic readings, poetry parties, photo exhibits, honors thesis presentations and much more. The complete schedule, with event descriptions, is available online at www.coastal.edu/coi.

Charles Bierbauer, dean of the College of Mass Communications and Information Studies at the University of South Carolina, who was scheduled to present a keynote address on Thursday, will not be appearing due to family illness. However, Neale Lundgren, a former Benedictine monk and a leader in multi-faith awareness, is still scheduled to speak on Friday, Feb. 13 at 11:30 a.m. in Wall Auditorium. Cypress, the musical trio featuring Lundgren, will perform Friday at 12:30 p.m. in Edwards Recital Hall.

The conference will open with an address by Kurzweil, whose recent bestselling book, “The Age of Spiritual Machines: When Computers Exceed Human Intelligence,” has received widespread acclaim and has been published in nine languages. He is internationally regarded as one of the leading inventors of our time.

Neale Lundgren is a counselor, musician and scholar who has dedicated his multifaceted career to promoting a deeper awareness of spirituality by leading seminars, workshops and retreats on spirituality.

Coastal Carolina University Newsletter is published biweekly during the academic year and monthly during June and July by the Office of Marketing Communications. Submissions should be sent to the Office of Marketing Communications in SNGL 204 by noon the Monday before publication.
Special housing meetings scheduled

A new freshman residential program that groups students together according to their interests is being planned by the Office of Student Affairs for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Special Interest Housing communities are self-selected groups of students and faculty or staff drawn together by shared goals and common interests and are intended to integrate learning and community living.

Special interests can range from common academic, cultural or life interests. Members of Special Interest Housing communities will not only explore their personal interest, but will also share their knowledge by developing programs each academic year for the university community.

A faculty or staff member will serve as an adviser to the themed residential community. Additionally, a Resident Assistant (RA) with the shared interest will reside with the student members within existing residential housing. Each Special Interest Housing community will meet regularly to identify goals, assess progress and plan projects.

"The first year of college is often the most critical period for students, and Special Interest Housing can ease the transition for freshmen," said Lynn Willett, vice president for student affairs. "These communities are an opportunity for students to learn from each other and recognize peers as partners in intellectual and community life."

Faculty and staff involvement is the key to the program’s success. Permanent faculty (full or part-time) and full-time professional staff members involved in teaching and/or enhancing student learning through mentoring and/or advising who have at least one year of employment at Coastal are invited to submit proposals for special interest themes.

To be considered, themes must be oriented to student learning, have academic applications and show potential for attracting freshman participants.

The deadline for proposals is Friday, March 12 at 1 p.m. Applications and additional information can be found on the Special Interest Housing Web site: www.coastal.edu/students/affairs.

To learn more about the program, information sessions will be held on Wednesday, February 25 at 12:30 p.m. and Thursday, February 26 at 7:30 a.m., in the Wall Boardroom.

For further information, contact Lynn Willett or Carrie Toal at 349-2300.

‘Vagina Monologues’ is a V-Day event

The award-winning “The Vagina Monologues” that recently closed off-Broadway will be performed by Coastal’s student production company, Upstage Theater, on Feb. 13 to 15.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13 and Saturday, Feb. 14, and at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15 in the Edwards Black Box Theater. General admission is $5, and proceeds will benefit the Rape Crisis Center. Tickets will be sold only at the door.

The hugely successful play by Eve Ensler is based on her collection of interviews with women of all ages and nationalities about issues such as rape, child-birth, love and other female experiences. The hour and a half play that ran off Broadway for six years has been described as heart-warming and funny, but does contain graphic language and portrayals.

Directed by theater graduate Jason Adams, the cast includes freshmen Alex Capps and Kathleen Galbraith; juniors Emily Bryant, Krissy Schuck and Jenny Greer and senior Tiffany Scribner. Also featured are Robin Edwards-Russell, a performing arts professor, and students Lizz Farmer and Jennifer Paine.

Coastal’s production is an official event of V-Day, which is the global movement to stop violence against women and girls. The play will also be presented for Coastal students at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 12 during the Celebration of Inquiry in the Edwards Theater. For more information call 349-2087.
Constance Edwards recently attended the joint meetings of the American Mathematical Society and the Mathematical Association of America in Phoenix, Ariz. At the meetings she was a judge for the MAA Undergraduate Poster Session, served on the Calculus Task Force and made four presentations on using the ClassPad 300 in the calculus classroom. The trip was funded by a grant from Casio, Inc.

New officers for ODK for 2004-2005 include: John Adamiec, president; Emma Sellers, vice president; Melissa Rohal, recording secretary; Jessica Brinkman, corresponding secretary; Jason Schipper, treasurer; and Amanda Stepp, director of public relations.

Dennis Wiseman has been named to the Improving Teacher Quality Review Panel for the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. The panel will review and recommend for funding proposals submitted by institutions of higher education in South Carolina as a part of the No Child Left Behind Improving Teacher Quality Higher Education Grant Program.

Ana Ivanovic, a senior in Coastal's Resort Tourism Management program and acting assistant general manager of the Fairfield Inn at Broadway at the Beach, was recognized as a key member of the team that won the Marriott Corporation's Fairfield Inns Top Operations Award for 2003. Fairfield Inn-Broadway at the Beach was notified on Jan. 20 that it had been chosen above all 521 other Fairfield Inns in the nation to receive the award, which is given annually to the property that best meets the highest standard for hospitality operations set by the Marriott company.

While going to school full time, Ivanovic worked at the hotel to fulfill part of her internship requirements for the program. “Students in the resort tourism management program study how to create systems to achieve service excellence,” said Taylor Damonte, director of the program. “It is great to see they are out there leading in industry and helping their team members achieve it.”

Jim Luken was interviewed by Clemson University’s public radio program, “Your Day.” The interview, which aired Dec. 4, focused on Venus fly traps in Horry County. Luken’s research on Venus fly traps was also featured in The (Charleston) Post & Courier and in The (Columbia) State newspapers.

John Hutchens of the Department of Biology recently published a paper, “Bioassessment of silvicultural impacts in streams and wetlands of Eastern United States,” in the journal Water, Air, & Soil Pollution: Focus. The paper, co-authored by Darold Barzer and Elizabeth Reese of the University of Georgia, discusses how freshwater organisms respond to forestry practices.

Jim Henderson made a presentation on “Human Rights in U.S.-Cuban Relations” at St. Michael’s Church and School in Garden City Beach.

Sharon Thompson was named Sun News 2002-2003 Volunteer of the Year at a special luncheon sponsored by the newspaper on Jan. 29. Nominees for the distinguished award are made by people in the community, and a judge determines a winner.

Thompson was honored for her dedication and service to the community. The professor of health promotion is the mother of two daughters, and has been chairwoman of the Waccamaw Youth Center board of directors since 1999.
Coastal students present papers at national conference

Two CCU students and their professor presented research papers at the recent Phi Alpha Theta Biennial Convention in New Orleans.

Adam Jones, a senior majoring in history, presented a paper titled "From Small Beginnings: How the American Revolution Broadened Anti-Slavery Sentiment." Jason Schipper, an honors student and history major, presented "An Analysis of U.S.-Cuban Relations: 1895-1903."

Both students are members of Psi-Mu, Coastal's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society. They wrote their papers under the direction of John Navin, faculty adviser to Psi-Mu. Jones and Schipper met aspiring historians from numerous other colleges and universities and attended dinners that featured paper presentations by the incoming and outgoing presidents of Phi Alpha Theta.

Coastal's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta inducts approximately 50 students each year and at the conference was described as "one of the best chapters we have in the Southeast region" by Graydon Tunsstall, executive director of the organization.

Navin serves as Phi Alpha Theta's Southeast region coordinator, lending advice and support to other chapter advisers. At the biennial convention he presented a paper titled "Violence Will Break All: Plymouth Plantation's Internal Crisis," and chaired sessions on Colonial history and on "Planning a Successful Regional Meeting."

Sunday, Feb. 8
- Gospel Sing Out, Wheelwright Auditorium, 4:30 p.m., free

Monday, Feb. 9
- "Happenstance," foreign film series, 7 p.m., Wall Auditorium

Tuesday, Feb. 10
- Kimbel Library Book Sale, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 11
- Kimbel Library Book Sale, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Celebration of Inquiry starts with Ray Kurzweil speech, 7 p.m., Wheelwright

Thursday, Feb. 12
- Celebration of Inquiry concurrent sessions begin, 8:30 a.m., various campus locations
- Kimbel Library Book Sale, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 13
- Celebration of Inquiry concurrent sessions begin, 8:30 a.m., various campus locations
- "Vagina Monologues," 7:30 p.m., Edwards Theater, $2 donation with CCU ID

Saturday, Feb. 14
- "Vagina Monologues," 7:30 p.m., Edwards Theater, $2 donation with CCU ID

Sunday, Feb. 15
- "Vagina Monologues," 3 p.m., Edwards Theater, $2 donation with CCU ID

Wednesday, Feb. 18
- "Alligators, Red Pandas and Whooping Cranes as models for genetic risks and genotoxicology," 5:30 p.m., R. Cathcart Smith Science Center 107

Thursday, Feb. 19
- "Finding Out About Nemo: Fun Fish Facts," Eyes on Biology lecture, 7 p.m., Wall Auditorium
Coastal Notes

Faculty House events set
Mark your calendars now for this Spring's Singleton Faculty House events. Remaining dates are:
- Thursday, Feb. 26
- Wednesday, March 24
- Monday, April 19
- Wednesday, May 5 (Exam Week)
All will be held in Atheneum Hall 003 beginning at 4:30 p.m. with food served at 5 p.m. If you are not a current member, you may join for the spring semester for $20. Single events are $5 each.

Opportunities for volunteerism
The Track and Field program at Coastal Carolina University is recruiting volunteers to assist with the home track meets this spring. There are a variety of volunteer needs, some requiring experience and training, and others requiring neither. coastal will be hosting track meets on the following dates: Saturday, March 6; Friday and Saturday, March 12-13; Friday and Saturday, March 19-20; and Saturday, April 10.
Coastal is also hosting a USATF Officials Certification Clinic on March 5 to give new volunteers the opportunity for training and certification. The cost of the clinic will be paid for anyone willing to work at least one Coastal meet this year. If you are interested in assisting as a volunteer or official, call 349-2907 or e-mail allden@coastal.edu.

Suggested safety measures
You might want to program your cell phone with the emergency telephone number of Coastal's Department of Public Safety.
The number is 843-349-2911. Public Safety officials remind us that in an emergency on or around the campus, you might not remember the number otherwise.
Also, feel free to contact CCU's Dept. of Public Safety any time you feel you need an escort, need help jump-starting your car, lock your keys in your car, need to report suspicious activity, or if you have any other similar problem or emergency.

'Eyes on Biology' starts back up
The "Eyes on Biology" lectures are returning this spring, starting with "Finding Out About Nemo: Fun Fish Facts" on Thursday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. in Wall Auditorium. It will be led by Sharon Gilman, whose research focuses on fish ecology and bioenergetics.
Other "Eyes" talks will be on March 11 and April 22.

'Tasteful Treasures' in book store
Coastal students in health promotion have produced a cookbook. It's called "Tasteful Treasures: Healthy Favorites from Coastal Carolina University Students," and it's available in the CCU bookstore for $8.
The 166 recipes in the spiral-bound cookbook are all "healthier" favorites and recipe makeovers that were prepared and submitted by undergraduate students in nutrition classes between 1997 and 2003.
Appetizers, beverages, soups, salads, vegetables, main dishes, breads, desserts, cookies and candy are all covered here - even healthy snack bars.
Proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will be used to support the health promotion program at CCU, according to Sharon Thompson, who spearheaded the project.

Athletic Update

Saturday, Feb. 7
- Women's basketball hosts UNC Asheville, 7 p.m.
- Men's basketball at Liberty, 7 p.m.
- Women's indoor track at Carolina, Classic Indoor Meet, Chapel Hill, TBA

Monday, Feb. 9
- Men's basketball at High Point, 7 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 13
- Softball vs. Kent State, Triangle Classic - Raleigh, N.C., 1:30 p.m.; softball vs. Temple, Triangle Classic, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 14
- Women's basketball at Liberty, 6 p.m.
- Softball vs. UNC Wilmington, Triangle Classic - Raleigh, N.C., 10 a.m.
- Softball Elimination Games, Triangle Classic - Raleigh, N.C., TBA
- Men's basketball hosts VMI, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Feb. 15
- Softball Championship/Placing Games, Triangle Classic - Raleigh, N.C., TBA

Monday, Feb. 16
- Women's basketball at Radford, 7 p.m.
- Men's basketball hosts Radford, 7 p.m.
- Men's golf at Rio Pinar Intercollegiate, Orlando, Fla., all day (also on 17th)

Friday, Feb. 20
- Softball vs. Oregon State, Palm Springs Classic, Palm Springs, Calif., 10 a.m. (PST)
- Softball vs. Utah, Palm Springs Classic

Saturday, Feb. 21
- Women's basketball hosts Winthrop, 7 p.m.
- Softball vs. Stanford, Palm Springs Classic, Palm Springs, Calif.
- Softball vs. Pacific Palm Springs Classic, 6 p.m. (PST)
- Men's track at Myrtle Beach Marathon Relay, 8 a.m.
- Men's basketball at UNC Asheville, Big South TV
- Women's indoor track at Big South Championship, Blacksburg, Va., TBA

Sunday, Feb. 22
- Softball vs. Baylor, Palm Springs Classic, Palm Springs, Calif., 10 a.m. (PST)
This Issue:

• Celebration of Inquiry gets under way
• Special interests housing communities forming
• 'Vagina Monologues' production returns
• Students present papers at national meet

Have you had your lecture today?

"Alligators, Red Pandas and Whooping Cranes as models for genetic risks and genotoxicology"
Speaker: Travis Glenn of the USC Department of Biology
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 5:30 p.m.
R. Cathcart Smith Science Center 107 - free

Eyes on Biology lecture series
"Finding Out About Nemo: Fun Fish Facts"
Speaker: Sharon Gilman
Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m.
Wall Auditorium - free