Department Profile: Television Services

Television Services is a department in the College of Education and Professional Studies at Jacksonville State University that provides promotional, technical, and educational support to the college and the university. The department provides on site support for the Department of Communication including assisting students with projects and maintaining all of their labs and equipment.

Mr. Mike Hathcock, TV Services Director, Television Services also uses Department of Communication students as student workers or interns providing them with daily, practical hands-on television production experience. The students are asked to do everything Television Services’ employees do including shooting remote video, non linear editing, studio productions, working on a full size production truck to televise live events, and even learning to repair equipment.

“I have had some very talented student workers in the past, who are now working around the country as freelance television production professionals,” said Mr. Hathcock.

Television Services produces commercials, recruiting videos, and other promotional material designed to positively impact the public image and the instructional mission of Jacksonville State University. TV Services produced a fund-raising video that was used as part of the

Faculty Recognized for Teaching, Service, and Scholarship

The following CEPS faculty were notified of their promotions to be effective October 1, 2009. Receiving tenure were Dr. Tommy Turner, Educational Resources, and Dr. Dana Ingalsbe, Technology. Four faculty received promotion to Associate Professor: Dr. Celia Hilber, Curriculum and Instruction; Dr. Dana Ingalsbe, Technology; Dr. Nina King, Curriculum and Instruction; and Dr. Tommy Turner, Educational Resources.

Dr. Glaucio Scremin, Assistant Professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, recipient of the Earlon and Betty McWhorter Outstanding Teacher Award.

Service Pins were awarded to: Dr. Marsha A. Zenanko for twenty years; Dr. Judy McCrary, Dr. J. Gordon Nelson, Ms. Lynetta Owens, and Ms. Sandra Sudduth for fifteen years; and Dr. Larry Beard and Dr. Janell Wilson for ten years.

College of Education and Professional Studies Faculty Research Award recipients were: Stephen Armstrong; Jordan Barkley; Larry Beard; Noureddine Bekhouche; Dale Campbell; Virginia Cole; Charlotte Eady; Isreal Eady, Jr.; Elizabeth Engley; Nancy Fox; Teresa Gardner; Debra Goodwin; John Hammett; Kingsley Harbor; Slenda Haynes; Donna Herring; Celia Hilber; Augustine Ihator; William Kiser; Patricia Lowry; Judy McCrary; Betty Morris; Gordon Nelson; Charles Notar; Mary Montgomery-Owens; Tim Roberts; Roland Thornburg; Melanie Wallace; Jan Wilson; Marsha Zenanko; and Mike Zenanko.
TV Services produces all of the JSU sporting events that are aired on the TV station, WJXS-TV24. TV Services has a close working relationship with the TV station and uses their production truck for live events. WJXS-TV24 production truck is also used for other events such as broadcasting graduation ceremonies live on both WJXS-TV24 and the internet.

According to Mr. Hathcock, most people do not realize how much work is involved in a live TV broadcast. It takes six to eight hours to set up all the equipment and then another two hours after the event to strike, which results in many 12 to 14 hour days. Television Services helps outside agencies with video productions. Recently, TV Services completed a project for the Northeast Alabama Center for Community Initiatives concerning Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). The finished project was shown in Calhoun County area high schools to discourage underage drinking. Another recent project was for Substance Abuse Prevention Advisory Coalition (SAPAC). TV Services produced a video that addresses general management issues and legislation that will determine changes in the Little River Canyon boundaries and partnerships between the National Parks Service and Jacksonville State University. TV Services produced a long form video and two public service announcements (PSAs) for the Described and Captioned Media Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. These videos are available to school teachers and parents of disabled students interested in captioned media. The PSAs were made available to television stations nationwide. Other past projects include work for the Emergency Management Agency; Boy Scouts of America; NHC

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university’s successful “Power of 125” campaign. The video won a Telly Award. The Telly Awards are given to the best projects selected from entries around the world. TV Services competed with some of the best production companies and advertising agencies. A Telly Award is a tremendous honor and TV Services has won four of them. The “Silver Telly” is the highest honor given by the organization and it was awarded for the weekly program “Gospel Music Southern Style” that is hosted by Mr. Hathcock. Mr. Hathcock is also the host of a half-hour program “JSU Today” broadcast by WJXS-TV24.

“JSU Today” has been in production just over a year and each week features interesting people, places, and events at Jacksonville State University. It takes a lot of TV Services’ time to do a new show each week. TV Services tries to video tape as many events as possible in order to promote all programs at JSU. In addition, “JSU Today” includes a sports segment each week hosted by Mr. Mike Parris, the voice of gamecock athletics.

Interviewing guests, shooting special events and concerts, and covering athletic events keeps TV Services pressed for time and as a result TV Services personnel do not go home at 4:30 p.m., according to Mr. Hathcock, “Television Services’ employees work a lot of nights and weekends.”
Scholarships Awarded for 2009-2010

This year the College of Education and Professional Studies was able to award $25,298.00 in scholarships to students. The funding came from a variety of sources and each department in the college was allowed to choose among applicants provided through the JSU Scholarship webpage. A new committee created by Dr. John Hammett, Dean, was assigned the scholarship oversight responsibilities. The committee members were Dr. Bill Kiser, Dr. Melinda Bolgar, Dr. Melinda Staubs, Dr. Virginia Cole, Mr. Chris Waddle, Ms. Paula Napoli, Ms. Teje Suit, and Mr. Mike Zenanko, Chair. These members worked with their individual departments and Mr. Martin Weldon, the JSU Scholarship Coordinator, to review the applications and determine the amount offered to recipients. The committee members will also be meeting with the scholarship recipients and monitoring their progress.

Graduate and undergraduate students in the CEPS are encouraged to look at the scholarships offered and to apply for the scholarships they qualify. The application period opens October 1 and closes March 1 each year. Please visit www.jsu.edu/finaid/scholarships for more information.

41st Annual Teacher Hall of Fame

An awards banquet was held on May 22, 2009 to honor the fifteen nominees and three inductees for the 41st Annual Teacher Hall of Fame. The Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame was founded in 1969 by then university president, Dr. Houston Cole. Dr. Cole believed in honoring those who not only teach, but also exemplify the profession. Jacksonville State University and Dr. William A. Meehan, JSU President, are proud to carry on this legacy.

In the Elementary Division, Ms. Sabrina Lynch of Thompson Intermediate School was inducted. In the Middle School Division, Ms. Dilhani Uswatte, of Berry Middle School was inducted. In the Secondary Division, Ms. Kina Teaford of Ohatchee High School was inducted. Each of the inductees will be honored by having their names inscribed on a plaque located in Houston Cole Library.
Campus Wellness Center Sponsors Employee Health and Fitness Day

On Wednesday, May 20, 2009, Jacksonville State University’s administration took an active role in the pursuit of a healthier workforce with the endorsement of National Employee Health & Fitness Day for the second consecutive year.

The JSU Campus Wellness Center sponsored the event for employees in an effort to increase awareness of the benefits of healthy eating and regular exercise. NEHF Day included participation from local vendors such as Body Kneads Massage, YMCA, County Extension Agency, and Curves for Women, all who gave out coupons and information on health and fitness. The group was welcomed by Dr. John Hammett, Dean of College of Education and Professional Studies and Ms. Gina Mabrey, Director of JSU Campus Wellness Center. ROTC’s Master Sergeant Jerry Laitinen and the Gamecock Battalion led everyone in a few warm-up exercises and stretches. All were then led on a FUN 1-Mile Walk around campus by students majoring in Exercise Science and Wellness. The event concluded with healthy snacks and door prizes donated by Get Personalized, Stoney Brook Golf Course, ROTC, JSU Wellness Center, Body Kneads, Strut’s, Curves for Women, Club Fitness, Heirloom’s, Java Jolt, and JOY Christian Book Store. All registered participants in attendance received a ribbon and certificate of participation.

NEHF is a national health observance, held the third (3rd) Wednesday in May each year. It is administered annually by the National Association for Health & Fitness and was created to promote the benefits of physical activity for individuals through their work site health promotion activities. Founded in 1989 National Employee Health and Fitness Day has enlisted tens of thousands of participants from employers around the world. Worksite health and fitness programs have a proven record for improving the overall health and productivity of the workforce. Benefits for employers include: improved health care cost management, enhanced employee productivity and absenteeism, and decreased rates of illness and injuries. For the employees, the benefits are also numerous: lower levels of stress, increased well-being, self-image and self-esteem, improved physical fitness, increased stamina, and potential weight reduction.

Faculty Profile:

Dr. Rita Boydston

Dr. Rita Boydston, Associate Professor of Elementary Education in the College of Education and Professional Studies, has announced her plans to retire effective the completion of the May term, 2009.

Dr. Boydston, the youngest of ten children, is one of JSU’s own, graduating from JSU with her B.S. degree in Elementary Education in 1977. She continued her education here, completing her M.A. degree in Early Childhood Education in 1980 and her Ed.S. degree in 1984. She then attended UAB to complete her Ph.D. in 1994.

Prior to joining the faculty at JSU, she taught kindergarten for ten years and second grade for six years at Kitty Stone Elementary School. She began adjunct teaching at the Gadsden campus in 1980 and taught at Wesleyan College for one year and at Berry College for two years.

In 1997, she came to JSU as a full time faculty member in Elementary Education as an Assistant Professor. In 2002, she earned Associate Professor and was tenured.

When asked what made her decide to work in higher education, she had several amusing anecdotes most of us can relate to concerning the mind-set of a early childhood teacher. For example, she discovered one day that when she had guests in her home, she would only fill their juice glasses half full and made them finish it off before she gave them more. But what really decided it for her was one day as she sat in an airport waiting for a plane, she reached over and tied a stranger’s shoe for him.

Dr. Boydston is looking forward to retirement where she can spend time with her two sons, John and Jacob, and her two grandchildren, Kaleb, 16 months, and Kolbi, 4 months, where she will once again happily regress to giving half glasses of juice and tying shoes spontaneously.
Faculty Profile:

Dr. Judy Hale McCrary is retiring this May after serving at Jacksonville State University as a Professor of Elementary Education. Dr. McCrary received her Bachelor of Arts degree from David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, her Master of Education from Alabama A & M University, and her Doctor of Philosophy from Mississippi State University. She was born October 16 in Tuscaloosa where she lived before moving to Florence when her father took a job with the Tennessee Valley Authority. It seemed that TVA was not very family oriented as they kept him on the road all the time. So, after three years the Hale family moved to Scottsboro where her father established an electrical repair business. Roots grew quickly and Scottsboro is still her home today.

The year before graduating from Mississippi State Dr. McCrary began her job hunt in an elementary education position in higher education. At that time, there were good and interesting positions all over the southeast. Interviews were in abundance followed by job offers. Finding the right fit was top priority. She chose to wait for the perfect fit. Jacksonville State University proved to be that perfect fit for her and the University as well.

When asked to tell about her time at JSU, Dr. McCrary had some things to share. “It has always been such a joy to work with the faculty and staff here. Everyone is friendly, caring, and hard working. By the time undergraduates reach the College of Education and Professional Studies, they are extremely focused. They see themselves as teachers and are searching for the methods that will help them be the best teachers possible. The last several years I have worked solely with the Ed.S. program. I have always loved doing action research, especially with young children. This program offered me the opportunity to share that love with graduate students as they completed their capstone projects, an action research project.”

Just like everyone else, she too has big retirement plans. Mainly she plans to do the things that she was never able to do while working. Things like attending Tuesday morning ladies Bible class, keeping a spotless house, and gardening from sun up to sun down. Although her garden will benefit from having her she will be greatly missed here at JSU.

Student Profile:

The Jacksonville State University Communication Department has chosen Ms. Alicia Warren to be the editor for the 2009-2010 edition of The Mimosa, Jacksonville State University’s yearbook.

Ms. Warren is from Rainbow City and graduated from Southside High School in 2007. She is currently a junior majoring in accounting and finance. Among her many campus duties are performing as a Marching Ballerina and Diamond Girl. She also serves as a peer educator.

Ms. Warren says she is excited about serving as yearbook editor and brings several fresh ideas to the annual publication. Her responsibilities include the selection of a staff of editors and volunteers who will assemble the yearbook during the school year.
Ms. Dana Henson Webb earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Physical and Health Education with a certification in Adaptive Physical Education, a Masters’ of Science in Physical Education and Educational Administration, and an Educational Specialist Degree in Administration from Jacksonville State University. She has been employed as a Physical Education teacher in the Oxford City School system at Oxford High school for 18 years. Ms. Webb also coaches varsity softball, volleyball, cross country, and cheerleading. She coached the 2000 6A State Championship Cheer Team, a team that also placed 1st runner-up in the national cheer competition in that same year.

Ms. Webb became a coach of the 1991 Special Olympic Athletes. She was the site-based Special Olympic Coordinator for the 2007 Cleburne and Calhoun Counties meet. She advises two service-based organizations: Key Club and Gancel. Ms. Webb also serves as an JSU Adjunct Faculty, advisory committee member for JSU Pedagogy Program in Physical Education, and Master L.I.F.E. instructor for the State Department of Education. Ms. Webb resides in Oxford and has two children, Emory, age 10, and Clay, age 9.

After Mr. Brenard Howard graduated from JSU in 1981, he began working for the Anniston City School System at Cobb Junior High School, teaching science and physical education. Mr. Howard was also the JV basketball coach and assistant football coach at Anniston High School.

In 1987, he moved to the new Anniston Middle School and became the interim head football coach (later he became the assistant coach) and the head basketball coach at Anniston High School. Mr. Howard served as head basketball coach at AHS until 1997. From 1987-1997, AHS’s basketball team boasted a 198-44 record. The team won 8 area championships and 5 Calhoun County Basketball Tournaments. Mr. Howard was named Calhoun County Coach of the Year three times. As an assistant football coach, his team won the 6A State Championship in 1989 and 1994. In 1997, he transferred full time to AHS and taught Physical Education and Alabama History. One of the highlights of his teaching career was in 1994 when nominated from Anniston School Systems as National Teacher of the Year.

In 1999, Mr. Howard accepted a job at Alexandria High School as a physical education teacher and coach. He currently serves as the assistant football coach, 7th and 8th grade basketball coach, and the boys and girls golf coach. The Alexandria High School girl’s golf team is presently the 1A-5A State Champions.
Congratulations to Ms. Lori Reid for her selection as JSU’s Employee of the Month for April 2009! Ms. Reid came to JSU in May of 2007. Her previous experience at Alexandria Elementary as a Title I Aide made her a perfect match for all the former Early Childhood, Elementary, and Special Education teachers in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Ms. Reid assists and supports the faculty and the many students who come through the C&I office. Her ready smile and sense of humor as well as her determination to find the answers to their questions make her a favorite with the students. Ms. Reid’s family, former colleagues from Alexandria, and JSU staff and faculty celebrated with her at a reception in her honor on May 21st in the Gold Room.

The Alabama Department of Public Health awarded a Balancing Intake and Expenditure (BITE) grant to JSU Wellness-Anniston.

To receive the grant, JSU Wellness-Anniston had to demonstrate successful partnerships to effectively plan and implement physical activity and nutrition projects that potentially can reduce community risks for obesity.

In April of 2009, the Alabama Department of Public Health chose five local communities to receive BITE grants throughout the state. JSU Wellness-Anniston was awarded $3,000 to implement the initiative. JSU Wellness-Anniston Wellness Walker’s Club, Junior Wellness Walkers, Budget Friendly Meals and Silver Nutrition programs demonstrated the planning and implementation necessary to be selected for the grant.

As a result of being selected for this competitive grant, JSU Wellness-Anniston’s Director, Mr. Fred J. Smith will represent JSU Wellness-Anniston on the State of Alabama’s Obesity Task Force. The JSU Wellness-Anniston programs will serve as models to assist other states that are considered to have some of the highest obesity rates in the nation.

Mr. Fred Smith said, “Since the JSU Wellness-Anniston program began just over a year ago, the BITE grant is a great milestone for our program. The grant affirms that JSU Wellness-Anniston’s programs are benefiting the community and the programs can be a model for other communities. Receiving the grant is an honor.”

JSU Wellness-Anniston would like to thank its staff, community stakeholders, community partners and participating colleges on campus that have worked in partnership with JSU Wellness-Anniston to deliver quality programs to everyone we serve. JSU Wellness-Anniston looks forward to continuing to serve our community through education, prevention and development.
Mr. Mike Hathcock has worked in the broadcast industry since 1975 and has worked at JSU since 1987. He acts as the “engineer” for the university and his radio voice is used for university sound bites. It is his voice heard on many JSU promotional videos and commercials, on the university’s telephone registration system, on on-line registration, and on the Human Resources “new employee” orientation multimedia program. He serves as the announcer for Commencement ceremonies where he calls every graduating student’s name to receive their diploma.

“From the start of football in September until basketball season ends in March or April, I usually work seven days a week on JSU productions,” he said. In his spare time, Mr. Hathcock works as a freelance engineer on television production trucks. On Sunday, he hosts a morning radio show on WGAD AM 930 in Gadsden.

Mr. Keith Thomas began at JSU in 1989 and since then has directed and produced numerous award winning videos. As the Production Coordinator, he manages all areas of production including producing, directing, scripting, lighting, editing and shooting. He also supervises the production staff, interns, and student workers. Mr. Thomas directs live broadcasts of JSU’s graduation ceremonies for television and the internet as well as serving as Technical Director for JSU Sports broadcast.

Mr. Ted White is officially the TV Services Assistant Engineer, but serves the department in many capacities. He was hired in 2002, and brought with him over twelve years of broadcast production experience with Harvest Media along with a background in industrial electronics, computer repair, and networking. Mr. White does most of the repair of electronic equipment used by Television Services. Mr. White also does everything associated with live video streaming of graduation services. On the television production truck during a graduation broadcast he is the “Engineer In Charge” and with so much computer equipment piled into his small space he can barely move. Mr. White does the live streaming of a graduation and then updates the graduation files for archival purposes. Mr. White also maintains the TV Services Website http://tv.jsu.edu.

Ms. Stephanie Morgan joined Television Services as Secretary in May 2003. She has worked at JSU university since 1987. Ms. Morgan has many years of experience in layout/design and public relations. One of her responsibilities is the design and scheduling of content on the new electronic LED message boards located on Highway 21 and Highway 204. Ms. Morgan also oversees the large TV Services audio/video archives.

Mr. Bobby Mikel began working with Television Services as a student worker in 2005 and was officially hired as Production Assistant in February 2007. He was actually hired before he graduated. In August 2007, Mr. Mikel graduated JSU and he was honored with the John C. Turner Student of the year award from the JSU Department of Communication. Mr. Hathcock said, “I wanted to hire Mr. Mikel before he graduated to make sure no one else had a chance to offer him a job.” Mr. Mikel works closely with the Communication students serving as administrator of their Final Cut Pro™ non-linear editing systems. He also creates most of the animations that are used on the large video screen at the football stadium. In addition, Mr. Mikel works as a freelance audio technician for WJXS-TV24, CrossCreek Television Productions, and others.

Mr. Steve Kines is the latest addition to the staff of Television Services. He was hired in August 2007 as Production Technician. Mr. Kines has more than twenty-five years of video production experience. He operated his own production company in this area where he gained a strong foundation as a professional producer. Mr. Kines’ duties include producing and editing “JSU Today” each week and “Inside Gamecock Athletics” during football season and he is the programmer and operator of the Daktronics ProStar™ Video Display Screen at Paul Snow Stadium.