Somehow the lyrics to the Bob Dylan classic, *The Times They Are A-Changin’* keep coming back to me. The sleepy little university called JSU nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains is waking up. JSU is starting to market the University to students with *branding, marketing strategy and corporate image*. These phrases grate on the nerves of many faculty, especially those in the sciences and those who have been here a while. I will be happy to have a discussion with you, but these phrases are acutely important. If JSU is going to survive, it must move in these directions.

To assist the process and to maintain the appropriate focus, we the faculty and staff should be contributing to the vision, to the strategy and shaping the direction for JSU. We will be having discussions about what we want our Department and JSU to look like in 2020. If we decide that Physical and Earth Sciences should, in 2020, look like it does today, then we will have lost the battle, we will have lost the good students and we will wonder why we did this to ourselves.

During the unit meetings this coming week, I will be asking for vision and directions that each of you might have. We can then work to put together a coherent vision that moves all of us in the same direction. And the words from Bob Dylan keep coming back...

> Please heed the call  
> Don’t stand in the doorway  
> Don’t block up the hall  
> For he that gets hurt  
> Will be he who has stalled. . .  
> For the times they are a-changin’.

Lou
University News

**Required Annual Sexual Harassment Prevention Training**
It is time for the annual training for prevention of sexual harassment. The University is committed to maintaining an environment free from all forms of sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and exploitation. You may view and/or print the University’s full prevention policy at:

[http://www.jsu.edu/hr/sexualharassment.html](http://www.jsu.edu/hr/sexualharassment.html). The training program is available online and may be taken at a time that fits your schedule. To access the training, go to the Office of Human Resources web site at [http://www.jsu.edu/hr/](http://www.jsu.edu/hr/) and select Preventing Sexual Harassment Training from the right hand side of the page. This annual training must be completed by April 30, 2009.

New this year is a Refresher Course available to anyone taking the full course in the prior year. This abbreviated version provides a review prior to the test or if you feel confident, you may go straight to the mastery test

**Distance Education Mentorship Training Grant, call for interest. . .**

The Office of Distance Education is investigating participating in an NSF grant proposal to develop a Distance Education Faculty Mentoring program at JSU. Select faculty members could undergo specialized training relating to teaching with technology, receive specialized materials and tools, and would be asked to serve as a mentor for new faculty.

The underlying focus is on improving integration of technology into the Higher Education STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) disciplines. As this grant requires collaboration with STEM groups, I would very much appreciate participation of interested faculty. If you are interested, please contact Sherri Restauri (srestaur@jsu.edu) by Monday, 6 April.

**Check Your Voice Mail!**
Due to a recent upgrade of the telephone system over Spring Break, users of single line phones that have Voice Mail and Caller ID capabilities may be experiencing some minor problems. If your Voice Mail light does not work when you have messages, please call the Phone Center at extension 5990 or 8001.

**Simon’s Lost in Yonkers Runs April 2-5**
The Alpha Psi Omega Student Scholarship Production of Neil Simon’s *Lost in Yonkers* will be presented Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 2-4 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 5 at 2 p.m. at the Stone Center Theatre. Tickets are $10 for adults, $8 for senior citizens and JSU personnel, and $5 for students and military. For Tickets and Information, call 782-5648
Department News

Teaching Schedule
For Fall 09 is posted on the bulletin board over the photocopier. On-line courses
are not listed. This just helps me avoid room conflicts. Please make certain that
you are not being asked to teach two classes at the same time.

Chemistry Unit Meeting
On Friday 3 April at 2:30. Mark your calendars.

Physics Unit Meeting
On Monday 6 April at 10:30. Mark your calendars.

Anthropology Unit Meeting
On Thursday 9 April at 1:30. Mark your calendars.

Environmental, Geology and Geography Unit Meeting
On Friday 10 April at 3:00. Mark your calendars.

Student News

PowerUp Poster Competition
The deadline for submissions for the Power Up 2009 student poster competition
has been extended to April 6th. Submissions can be made through the website:
http://www.powerup2009.com/students

The Student Research Poster Competition will be held during the Power Up 2009
Energy Conference & Expo at the Emerald Coast Conference Center in Fort Walton
Beach, Florida, April 9th-11th 2009. Both undergraduate and graduate students
are encouraged to participate in this dynamic and interactive event. The Gulf Coast
Energy Network will award $500 to the Best Undergraduate poster and $500 to
the Best Graduate poster. A top prize of $1,000 will be awarded for the “Best of
Show” poster.

Degenerate States

Lateral Thinking in a Storm
One winter morning a couple listening to the radio over breakfast heard the
announcer say, “They are predicting that we are going to have 8 to 10 inches of
snow today. You must park your car on the even-numbered side of the street, so the snow plows can get through." Norman went out and moved his car.

A week later while they were eating breakfast again, when the radio announcer said, "We are expecting 10 to 12 inches of snow today. You must park your car on the odd-numbered side of the street, so the snow plows can get through." Norman went out and moved his car again.

The next week at breakfast the radio announcer says "We are expecting 12 to 14 inches of snow today. You must park..." Then the power went out.

Norman was very concerned and said "Honey, I don't know what to do. Which side of the street do I need to park on so the snow plows can get through?"

With the love, patience and understanding of a devoted wife she replied, "Why don't you just leave it in the garage this time dear?"

Contact Details

If you have items of news or interest that you would like included in the Department of Physical and Earth Sciences newsletter, then contact Tracy Casey before noon on Thursday at; tscasey@jsu.edu or phone (256) 782-5232.