Mindful of what appears to me be the most important news on campus, I do want to clarify that I personally write this top portion of the newsletter, myself. The words are not plagiarized. Although, Tracy does frequently catch typos, New Zealandese, and grammar slips and fixes those things. Like a good secretary, she just makes the change without telling me.

However, the idea of a newsletter, of course, is not my unique idea. Many departments in many industries have newsletters. I like newsletters and worked on several when we lived in Tennessee. Notably, I started one for my son's Boy Scout troop. It was a large troop with about 150 boys and too many activities to keep track of.

This newsletter’s format is adapted from the format of the Department of Chemistry newsletter at Canterbury. Bryce, the Head of Chemistry at Canterbury, developed one of the most informative "publications" on campus. His newsletter opens with a personal statement (like this) and ends with a "joke" (both of us freely plagiarize the jokes from the internet).

I also attempt to copy important stuff from the JSU news wire. Unfortunately, the newswire is sometimes rather "thin" on news. I am always willing to add your suggestions and news items.

Lou

**Department News**

**Summer Term Begins**

Tuesday, May 5, registration opens again for May and Marathon G classes. Vasi, Al, Kelly and Miriam are scheduled to advise, but if the rest of you can be available too, that would be helpful. Scheduled classes begin on Wednesday, May 6.
Faculty Annual Reports (FAR) due on Friday, 8 May
The report forms can be downloaded from the College of Arts and Sciences web page: [http://www.jsu.edu/depart/cas/collegepolicy.html](http://www.jsu.edu/depart/cas/collegepolicy.html)
These should be completed and turned in to the Head of Department by 8 May. Meetings with the Head will be scheduled for 18 – 29 May.

Better Living through Chemistry
A group of JSU students spent a lot of time giving presentations to three local high schools earlier in April. I neglected to mention this in previous newsletters. It is critical that high school students are made aware that they can (and should) study science. With the advance of technology, the world needs minds trained in the sciences. We are grateful for these students, who can communicate so effectively with the high school crowd: Christina Ginn, Lori Fincher, Ashley Beaudry, Samantha Gacasan, James Batchelor, Stephen Fordham, and Livia Cara.

How does my pay compare?
Here are results of the 2008-09 National Faculty Salary Survey conducted by The College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR). Figures are based on salary data of more than 218,564 faculty members at public and private institutions nationwide. Salaries were reported by 837 institutions, including 500 private institutions and 337 public institutions (salaries were adjusted to 9 month salaries for comparison):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Associate Professor</th>
<th>Assistant Professor</th>
<th>New Assistant Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physical Sciences</td>
<td>$66,172</td>
<td>$50,117</td>
<td>$42,347</td>
<td>$41,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>$64,639</td>
<td>$48,773</td>
<td>$41,267</td>
<td>$39,994</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

University News

Spring Graduation Ceremony
Friday, May 1, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. at the Paul Snow Stadium. A reception honoring the speaker will be held in the Gamecock Center preceding commencement.

2009 Faculty Awards Reception
Tuesday, 12 May at 5:00 in 1103 Houston Cole Library with hors d’oeuvres following the presentations on the 12th floor.
Save the Date
College of Arts and Science Reception is scheduled for Thursday, 14 May. You will be receiving more details shortly.

Power Out
6 a.m. - 3 p.m. power outage will occur for the entire campus on Sunday, 3 May for substation maintenance by Acker Electric.

Publications and Presentations
Submitted to Surface Science, Surface Studies of 2,4-Pentanedione on $\gamma$-$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$/NiAl (100) and NiAl (100) by Andrew B. Helms, James S. Burgess, & Shane C. Street.

StudentNews
Richard J. Beschi Leadership Awards
Two of the graduating seniors in chemistry, Ashley Casey and Caleb Hill were awarded the Beschi Leadership Award in Chemistry. Mr. Beschi is a graduate of JSU who later worked in nuclear medicine. He was the first educational director in the UAB Nuclear Medicine Technology Program. He has made the award to encourage students to attend graduate school in chemistry. Caleb has been accepted into the graduate program at UAB. Ashley is waiting for an acceptance of her application. Below are pictures from the ACS graduation party and winners of the Leadership Award:
Degenerate States

Western Philosophy
The Lone Ranger and Tonto went camping in the desert. After eating dinner and chatting for a while they fell sound asleep.
Some hours later, Tonto woke the Lone Ranger and said, "Kemah Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?"
The Lone Ranger replied, "I see millions of stars."
"What that tell you?" asked Tonto.
The Lone Ranger pondered for a minute and then said, "Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, it’s evident the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What’s it tell you, Tonto?"
Tonto was silent for a moment, then said, "Kemah Sabe, someone has stolen tent."

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.