On Santa’s good list:  
It was a great week with the Martin Hall Christmas Luncheon on Monday. A special thanks to our book reps and to everyone who contributed to the lunch. Sue Ann enjoyed the chance to play and I heard from several of you that you appreciated the live Christmas music. Thank you for your kind words. We also had Tom Baucom’s retirement lunch on Wednesday. Thirty one years of teaching at JSU! And what is probably at the top of most of our lists, no classes to teach this week. In all my spare time, I started to work on the next report to the Trustees. Please remember to send me any accomplishments. I also circulated a near to final version of the Masters of Scientific Research to Biology, MCS and the Graduate Dean. The approval process will be lengthy, but I a confident we will accomplish this. I also appreciate comments back from the chemists and geographers about PRISM. That task is nearly complete.

On Santa’s naughty list:  
In January, we will be switched over to the new email system, Zimbra (see announcement below). The new system is great if JSU is your only email system and the only system you ever used in your life. I am really sorry that IT has decided not to provide POP server access. I should add to this list all our students who decided that this week was the right time to start studying. Remember all grades, passing a failing, are due on Tuesday before 1:15 PM (Who decides these times?).
--Lou

Department News

Grades Due  
On Tuesday, 15 December at 1:15 PM.

Graduation  
Fall commencement ceremony is on Friday, 18 December at 4:00 PM at the Pete Matthew Coliseum. Eight students from Physical and Earth Sciences are graduating. We congratulate the following Chemistry Majors: Jessica Armuelles and Laura Rowell. We also congratulate the following Geography Majors: Justin Aiello, Amanda Edmondson, Carey Howard, Andrew Hug, David Jones and Sato Takehiro.
PHY211 with Hands-on Demonstrations
Nouredine Zettili ended the year with students providing the demonstrations of basic physics. He points out how important it is for the students to build some and to see the physics concepts at the same time. The photos are from the demonstrations, including water rockets.

Publications

Grants
Congratulations to Nouredine Zettili for successfully having Improving Physics and Chemistry Teaching in Secondary Education (IMPACTSEED) funded for the ninth straight year. Laura Winekauf and Al Nichols also contribute to this excellent program.

Student News
2010 Arts and Sciences Research Symposium
JSU students, share your research with students and faculty across disciplines in the College of Arts and Sciences. Prepare an abstract up to 450 works and submit it online at http://www.jsu.edu/cgi-bin/apps/symposium
Deadline for submissions is 1 Feb 2010 and $50 is awarded to the best presentation.
University News

Staff Awards Program
In the Leone Cole Auditorium on Monday 21 December 2009 at 11:45 AM. Lunch will follow upstairs in the Hopper Dining Hall.

Gamecock Express Proposed Route Changes --Effective Spring 2010
WHITE ROUTE- No Changes
RED ROUTE- Currently running four (4) buses. Drop route down to three buses during peak times, and run the fourth bus along basically the same route in the opposite direction. To avoid confusion, the reverse RED ROUTE is proposed to be the PURPLE ROUTE.
GREY ROUTE- To be eliminated.
YELLOW ROUTE- The Saturday service will be discontinued, leaving only Thursday and Friday evenings.
BLUE ROUTE- Several stops will be eliminated from this route. The eliminated stops are primarily at the off campus apartment complexes (see the web for the list of eliminated stops at): http://www.jsunews.com/news/?newsID=468

Final Zimbra (New Email) Sessions Offered
The final "pre-roll out" Orientation/Training sessions for the new JSU e-mail system will be held daily at 1:30pm, January 4-8 (M-F), 2010. The sessions will be offered in the basement computer lab in the Houston Cole Library. If you are unable to attend any scheduled session, please complete the registration form and include the reason you cannot attend. Your old e-mail will not be migrated to the new system if you have not attended any session or you have not filled out the form stating you will not be attending class. The new JSU e-mail system will replace all desktop e-mail clients (Outlook, Thunderbird, Eudora, Mozilla, etc.). All users are encouraged to fill out the form located at http://www.jsu.edu/dit/acns/email/training.html.

Degenerate States

Financial Planning
Bob was a single guy living at home with his father and working in the family business. When he found out he was going to inherit a fortune when his sickly father died, he decided he needed a wife with which to share his fortune. One evening at an investment meeting he spotted the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. Her natural beauty took his breath away.
"I may look like just an ordinary man," he said to her, "but in just a few years, my father will die, and I'll inherit $200 million."
Impressed, the woman obtained his business card and three days later, she became his stepmother.
Women are so much better at financial planning than men.
[Thanks to Nouredine for this contribution.]
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 Thursdays at: tcasey@jsu.edu or phone (256) 782-5232.