Times are tough. We are in our second year of proration and everyone expects a third year of proration. Our Departmental budget is essentially at zero—Tracy does put reserves away to pay for the telephone, the copier, etc. However, there is no extra money—but our needs continue.

A solution to this funding problem that preserves academic freedom and jobs is to apply for external grants. Hundreds of millions of dollars of research funding is distributed each year and our Department receives very little of it. (We ask for very little from it, too.) With your own external research funding you can buy that shiny new computer or the latest bells and whistles on your laboratory equipment. You can also budget funds to pay you a summer salary, cover travel costs to conferences, or to pay students to work in your lab. You can also buy out of teaching, if you want more time to devote to your research. It is clearly a win-win situation, and the grant Principal Investigator is the big winner.

Our lack of grantsmanship is a weak aspect of the Department and it would serve us all well if we had more externally funded grants. Let me know if you need help in writing a grant—I cannot write the grant for you, but I can get you some guidance.

--Lou

MyJSU, Administrative Computing System To Experience Downtime
Due to system upgrades the MyJSU portal and the Administrative Computer System will be unavailable from 5 p.m. on Friday, February 12 until 7 a.m. on Monday, February 22. The Administrative Computer System includes Administrative Banner, Self Service Banner, Student Account/Bill Payment and Reports. During this time, access to the MyJSU login will be disabled for students and faculty/staff. Students who access the Blackboard system by logging into MyJSU, will have to log directly into Blackboard from the Distance Education web page at: http://www.jsu.edu/distance

Deadlines and Dates to Remember
Arts and Sciences Student Symposium, Tuesday and Wednesday, 16-17 February
Faculty Research Grants, due at Dean's office 10 March
Spring Preview Day, Saturday 27 March
Science Olympiad, Saturday 10 April

Student News

Scholarship Deadline is March 1
All students interested in applying for a JSU scholarship are reminded that the deadline
for JSU scholarship applications is March 1, 2010. Specific questions can be emailed to mweldon@jsu.edu or by telephone to Martin Weldon at 782-5677.

Arts and Sciences Student Symposium, Tuesday and Wednesday, 16-17 February

University News

Faculty Senate Seeks Faculty Awards Nominations
The Faculty Senate is pleased to announce that nominations are sought for the following faculty awards:

- Faculty Scholar Lecturer Award
- Outstanding Teacher Award
- Ringer Faculty Development Award
- Thomas Award for Outstanding Community Education/Service
- Faculty Research Activity

All full-time faculty members are eligible. Nominations by self, students, colleagues or department heads are encouraged. Please refer to Faculty Awards for guidelines. The recipients will be recognized at the Faculty Awards Reception on May 11.

Degenerate States

Neologisms
1. Bozone (n.) The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
2. Cashtration (n.) The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.
3. Giraffiti (n.) Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
4. Sarchasm (n.) The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn’t get it.
5. Inoculatte (v.) To take coffee intravenously.
6. Hipatitis (n.) Terminal coolness.
7. Osteopornosis (n.) A degenerate disease.
8. Karmageddon (n.) It’s like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes? And it’s like, a serious bummer? You know?
9. Decafalon (n.) The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
10. Glibido (v.) All talk and no action.
11. Dopeler effect (n.) The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
12. Arachnoleptic fit (n.) The frantic dance performed just after you’ve accidentally walked through a spider web.
13. Beelzebug (n.) Satan in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.
14. Caterpallor (n.) The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you’re eating.
15. Ignoranus (n.) A person who’s both stupid and an @$$#o!

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 Thursdays at: tscasey@jsu.edu or phone (256) 782-5232.