



Well, it is the final day of the semester with graduation tonight. Many thanks to those faculty members who agreed to give up their Friday evening to help make this a special day in the lives of our students. I will see you there. Monday starts the very busy May semester and then things start to wind down for the summer sessions.

I have been working long hours on the chemistry application to the American Chemical Society for "accreditation." Their 48-page application really asks hard questions and causes you to contemplate on each and every thing that we do. I am convinced that our chemistry program is sound and that we are giving our students a first class education. I just have to justify that in measurable and verifiable quantities in the application. That is easier said than done.

Have a great week-end and see you on Monday!

-- Lou

Department News

Faculty FAR's are due 11 May

Your Faculty Annual Report is due to Tracy by Friday, 11 May. I will try to schedule review sessions on 21 through 25 May so that I can get everything to the Dean by the first of June. As always, I would like to see the following:

Last year's goals: What did you achieve, what did you not achieve? Why were you not able to achieve the goals?

Next year's goals: What is new and different? How will you improve? What support do you need to meet those goals?

When listing achievements, I will accept your summary statements. I do not need to see the original source material. (E.g., "I won the Nobel Prize." and I do not need to see the medal!)

Congratulations Graduates

We have the following students graduating this semester. A brief note on where they are heading (taken from their exit interviews). We wish all of our graduates well and look forward to hearing back from them as they experience the ups and downs of life.

In chemistry:

Catrina Mize: moving with her husband to Orlando, FL and then considering grad school

Jamellia Burney: looking for a position

Christina Carl: accepted a position at Avanti

Dorothy Forsyth: she has an interview scheduled with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation

Alexandra Paige: she said two weeks of travel and then she would start looking for a job

Samantha Gacasan: graduate school at Memphis

Matthew Nichols: looking for a position

Olivia Orr: graduate school at the University of Virginia

In geography:

George Applegate: working on the Appalachian Trail, B.S.A. camp and then an organic farm...

Amanda Crow: looking for a position

Andrew Forston: looking for a position

Nicholas Haney: graduate school at the University of Alabama

Paul McCummins: volunteer work for the next 90 days

Holly Park: graduate school at Auburn University

Dylan Pugh: continuing with his "day job" (manager at Red Lobster)

University News

Faculty Awards Reception

Please join us for the 2012 Faculty Awards on May 8 (Tuesday) at 5:00 on the 11th floor of the Houston Cole Library, followed by a reception on the 12th floor. The following awards will be presented: Cleo and Carla Thomas Service Award, McWhorter Outstanding Teacher Award, Faculty Scholar Lecturer Award, Ray and Ruth Ringer Award, Fulbright Scholar and Faculty Research Awards. Years-of-Service pins will also be awarded.

Jimmy Triplet at Jacksonville State Gets \$392,384 NSF Grant for Herbarium

The Collections in Support of Biological Research Program of the National Science Foundation has awarded a three-year, \$392,384 grant to Dr. Jimmy Triplett, assistant professor and curator of the Jacksonville State University Herbarium. The funding will support a project entitled "A Hidden Treasure in Northeastern Alabama - Revitalizing the Jacksonville State University Herbarium." Congratulations Jimmy!

JSU Drama Presents Snoopy! The Musical May 9-13

Snoopy!!! The Musical at the Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center, Jacksonville State University on May 9-13, 2012, Wednesday-Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. \$10 (Adult), \$8 (Senior Citizen/JSU Personnel), \$5 (Student/Child/Military)



CAST presents Cat on a Hot Tin Roof

At the McClellan Theatre, now through 6 May. Thursday through Saturdays at 7:30 PM and Sundays at 2:30 PM. Ticket info at 256-820-CAST or at <http://www.castalabam.com/>

Top Ten List

Top Ten Graduation Speakers

Here, according to the Premiere Speakers Bureau are the top ten graduation speakers. (To be very honest, after looking at this list, I think our graduation speakers are pretty good!)

Source: http://premierespeakers.com/graduation_speaker

10. **Manuel Scott:** One of the Original Freedom Writers
9. **Jim Abbott:** Legendary Baseball Player; Led Team USA to a Gold Medal in the...
8. **Jill Eikenberry and Michael Tucker:** Stars of NBC's Long-Running Hit Series "L.A. Law"
7. **Kurt Muse:** "You Can Make A Difference!"
6. **George Lindsey:** Loved Around the World as "Goober"
5. **Bodine Balasco:** How To Capture the Heart of Your Customers
4. **Vince Lombardi Jr.:** Author of "Coaching for Teamwork: Winning Concepts for Business..."
3. **Alicia Williamson Garcia:** A Favorite Women's Ministry Speakers and Worship...
2. **Guy Doud:** National Teacher of the Year and Best Selling Author
1. **Mike Eruzione:** 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team Captain; Portrayed in Disney's "Miracle..."

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.