



The news in Boston has definitely been in my mind the past week. I started my career in Boston. We lived in an apartment on the west edge of the city, next-door to Boston College. We would drive north to Watertown to go shopping at the mall. We had many friends living just outside the city limits in Newton. On April 15th (Patriot's Day, a state holiday), we would walk up to watch the Boston Marathon run past Boston College. This was just after "heartbreak hill" in Newton. From Boston College to the finish line in Back Bay was all down hill. I am remembering so many things from 28 years ago. Although, I do not have any comprehension of the senseless violence, and I feel for all the innocent victims. So, we draw this semester to a close on a somber note.

There are still many things happening at JSU. We have graduation, the Departmental Review, and the FAR's. All are detailed below. We also have 14 majors graduating. That is very positive news for the Department. Enjoy the week-end.
--Lou

Department News

Grades Due

All grades are due by 1:00 PM on Tuesday, 23 April.

Commencement on 26 April at 6:30 PM

Spring Commencement exercises will be held on Burgess-Snow Field on Friday, April 26, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. A reception honoring the speaker will be held on the Club Level (5th floor) of the Stadium Towers at 5:00 p.m. preceding Commencement. Dr. Glen Browder, former U.S. Congressman and Emeritus Professor of American Democracy at JSU, will speak at Jacksonville State University's spring commencement. Let Tracy know if you plan to attend ASAP.

May Term starts Wednesday 1 May.

Faculty Annual Review Timeline

Your FAR packets are due by Friday 10 May. Meetings with the Department Head will be scheduled for 12-15 May.

External Committee Meets for Department Review on 25 April.

The Department of Physical and Earth Sciences is undergoing a review. The external committee (Dr. Louise Clark, Assoc. Dean in Business and Commerce at JSU, Dr. Lisa Davis, Geography at UA and Dr. Shane Street, Chemistry at UA) will meet all day on Thursday 25 April. They would like meet with all of the Faculty members in the Department at 11:00 AM and then invite all the faculty members for a "free lunch" at the Caf (in the President's dining room) at 12:00. If you cannot attend the lunch, please let Tracy know. Otherwise, we waste a lot of money. ☹

Students Graduation This Semester

Lauren Collins (Chemistry)

Colin Homes (Chemistry)

Joi Jacobs (Chemistry)

Courtney Newsome (Chemistry)

Emily Shelton (Chemistry)

Casey Stallings (Chemistry)

Gayle West (Chemistry)

Meriem Zettili (Chemistry)

Logan Byars (Geography)

Ashley Ellswick (Geography)

Abigail Jacobs (Geography)

Reubin Kennedy (Geography)

Ahmed Maazouzi (Geography)

Richard Adam Smart (Geography)

Repairs to Library Roof

Repairs will start on 22 April and are contracted to be completed in 60 days. During this time the parking lot between McGee Hall and the Library will be closed. Walking through that area is possible, as long as the crane is not operating. Most of us get a bit more exercise by walking a few extra feet from our cars to our offices this summer.

College and University News

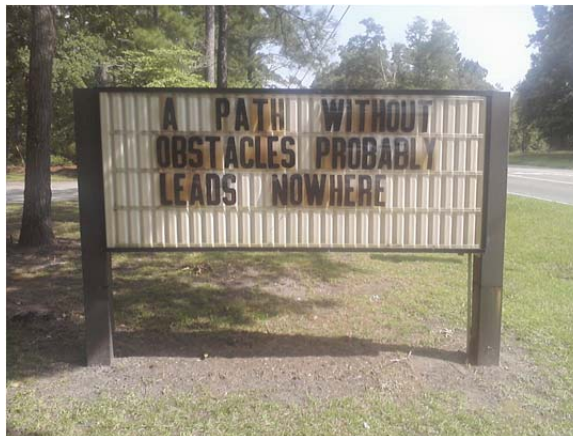
Jacksonville State University Trustees increase Tuition

The Jacksonville State University Board of Trustees increased Tuition and added a \$150 fee for students. They justified the tuition increase with a pay raise for faculty and staff. Perhaps there is some hope of an eventual pay raise. ☺

Faculty Awards Ceremony on 14 May

Details will be forthcoming.

Thought for the Day



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.