



I thank everyone for their help and participation in the Departmental Review. We had a good turn out of students. The faculty voiced many of their thoughts and concerns. We owe a great deal of thanks to Tracy for making all the behind-the-scenes arrangements (including food in Club Martin) and the special lunch that the faculty was able to enjoy. Both of the external reviewers told me that the best students from JSU are some of their best graduate students (in both geography and chemistry). That is a real pat-on-the-back to all of you.

I assume now that the semester is over that most of you will be working on your FAR reports. See the notice below about using Digital Measures. It will make the FAR report much easier to generate. It will also help to make certain that your activities for the past year are correctly reported in Digital Measures.

I hope to see you at Graduation tonight.
--Lou

Department News

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.

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)

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. You are encouraged to use Digital Measures the print out your accomplishments for the last academic year. If you go into Digital Measures and from the menu on the left, select "Run an Ad Hoc Report" and for #2 give the dates 1 May 2012 to 30 April 2013 and for #5 ask for one report per individual, it should build a report. If the report is not correct (out of date material is displayed or material is missing), you can go into Digital Measures and correct the dates or add the missing information. After making the corrections, you can run a new report.

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.

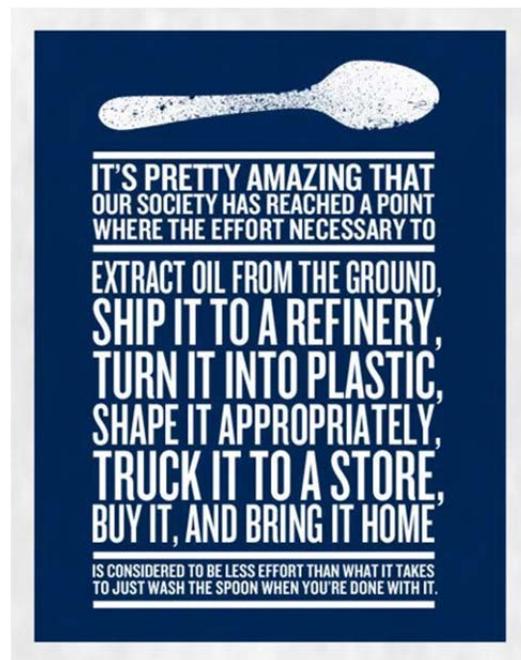
College and University News

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. Update on that pay raise: Do not hold your breath. Sources say that it is not in the budget.

Faculty Awards Ceremony on 14 May

Starting at 5:00 PM in room 1103 of Houston Cole Library. Hors d'oeuvres will be served on the 12th floor following the presentations. I have heard that Jimmy Triplet will be playing the fiddle on the 12th floor. This is one of the few remaining social events that is across the college and across the university. I strongly urge everyone to attend. It is important to maintain a sense of community.



Opportunities from the Office of Planning and Research

IDEA Workshop

The Office of Planning and Research and the JSU Assessment Sub-Committee will sponsor a one day workshop - "Getting the Greatest Benefit from the IDEA Instrument and Reports" on Thursday, May 23, 2013. The workshop, led by Shelly Chapman, Ph.D., a Senior Education

Consultant from The IDEA Center, will be held from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm on the 11th floor of Houston Cole Library. The workshop schedule can be viewed at

http://www.jsu.edu/oira/assessment_files/20IDEAWorkshopschedule.pdf

You are invited to attend. To help better prepare for this event, we ask that you go to

<https://jsuweb.wufoo.com/forms/z7m1q9/>

and register by May 10, 2013. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Tienhan Ma via email thma@jsu.edu or at (256) 782-5109.

CORE Academy

Please make plans to join us on the campus of Jacksonville State University, June 4-6, 2013 for the inaugural *CORE Academy*. Sessions will focus on using and incorporating technology into the K-12 classroom. Keynote speaker, Dr. Mark Milliron, formerly of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will address attendees. Visit <http://www.corepartners.org/registration.asp> to register for this exciting professional development opportunity. The schedule can be viewed at: http://www.corepartners.org/pdf/CORE_2013_Summer_Academy_Evite.pdf.

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.