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OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

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FROM MY DESK TO YOURS

Greetings!

While we continue to have concerns about the national and state economic conditions, we have much to celebrate. We are making considerable progress on the development of the ASU Strategic Plan which should be completed by the end of November 2009. The continuous input from faculty and staff members is greatly appreciated, and it has been extremely important as our consultants, The Barthwell Group, prepares near final documents for the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting (scheduled for October 9, 2009).

On Friday, October 2, Dr. Keith Parker, Professor of Sociology at the University of Georgia met with ASU faculty and staff members to explore ways in which the University can develop courses for Obesity and Wellness Education. Of immediate interest is the hosting of the National Conference on Obesity and Wellness, June 2010.

We are also exploring the possibility of reactivating the faculty and student exchange agreement with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as well as considering a similar agreement with Marshall University located in Williamson, West Virginia.

In addition, on October 5, we participated in a kickoff call with Learning House, Inc., the firm we contracted with to expand our on-line offerings. Learning House will provide a 24/7 Help Desk as well as course development assistance.

We are making excellent progress with the SACS reaffirmation process. Thanks to everyone for the special efforts to provide information and to accommodate SACS.

Ex^{3}S
Richard Green

Alcorn State University Salutes Dr. Thomas Bolden for His Work with NSF and the Scientific and Engineering Community

Acting Deputy Director, Cora Marrett expressed her sincere appreciation to Dr. Thomas Bolden, NSF Reviewer, for his willingness to devote his time and effort in the NSF's merit review process during this past fiscal year. "The quality and credibility of our merit review relies on the proposal reviews that experts, such as Dr. Bolden, provide us," stated Marrett. Marrett went on to say, "His help enables NSF to advance the frontiers of research and empower individuals through education in science and engineering."

The 2008 Annual Merit Review Report (NSB 09-43) is available at http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/publications/index.jsp. You can receive email updates NSF provides by signing up on the NSF homepage (http://www.nsf.gov). Research.gov (http://www.research.gov)also provides the public and research community a range of exciting new services and information for NSF and other research agencies. Please visit Research.gov to find information about federally-funded research and to access new services for managing proposals and awards.

Alcorn State University Signs Partnership in Education Agreement with Central Michigan University

ALCORN STATE, MS. September 29, 2009 — On September 19th, prior to the football game between Central Michigan University and Alcorn State University, the presidents of the two schools signed a Partnership in Education Agreement (PEA) designed to benefit both institutions.

CMU Interim President Kathleen M. Wilbur and ASU President George E. Ross, formerly CMU's Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services, approved the PEA which will foster and expand educational prospects and cooperation between the schools.

Also present at the signing were Dr. Richard Green, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Alcorn State University and four Alcorn undergraduates who are interested in attending graduate school at Central Michigan. The Alcorn students were Dinah Drake, Marcus Haynes, Cameron Jenkins, and Kimber Thomas.

Alcorn undergraduates interested in attending Central Michigan University should contact Dr. Peter R. Malik, Associate Professor, Department of English and Foreign Languages, Alcorn State University, at pmalik@alcorn.edu.

Please Join Me In Welcoming...

Dr. Vivek Bhargava, Associate Dean, MBA, Effective August 2009
Dr. John Igwebuike, Associate Dean, School of Business, Effective August 2009
Dr. Robert Leard, Interim Chair, Department of Chemistry and Physics, Effective October 2009
Dr. Alton Johnson, ASU Representative, Mississippi University Research Authority (MURA) Committee, Effective October 2009

HBCU FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

Call for Proposals from Faculty at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

****Application deadline for 2010-11 fellowships: January 11, 2010 ****

With support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the FHI began in 2008-09 a new residential fellowship program for faculty in the humanities, arts, and interpretive social sciences at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The program provides support for a year of scholarly research in a collegial environment, with access to many opportunities for substantive interaction and collaboration with Duke faculty and students.

Up to three academic year fellowships will be offered in each of the three years of the program (2008-09, 2009-10, and 2010-11). The program also offers an option for one-semester fellowships, but proposals for full-year fellowships will be prioritized. In addition to a stipend each fellow will receive a fully equipped office in the John Hope Franklin Center, library privileges, and a small pool of research and/or travel funds. Stipends for Assistant and Associate Professors are $40,000. Stipends for full Professors are $60,000. The FHI may, in some cases, provide additional funding for special projects. The FHI will provide $1,000 (by reimbursement) for relocation or housing cost, and will assist in identifying housing and relocation-related resources. At this writing, Duke policy prevents the FHI from offering direct health and dental benefits. However, the FHI will reimburse fellows for premiums for private insurance, or for additional premiums added to family plans in order to provide health and dental coverage for the fellow during the fellowship term. The FHI will reimburse costs for health and dental insurance up to a level of coverage comparable to the coverage offered by Duke's employee plans.

For more details, please visit http://www.fhi.duke.edu/opportunities/hbcu-faculty-fellowships/.

PROVOST/VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 4-6, 2009
MAC Conference

OCTOBER 6, 2009
Learning House Meeting

OCTOBER 6-7, 2009
Master Planning Meeting

OCTOBER 7, 2009
BAC Meeting
10am—2pm

OCTOBER 8, 2009
Executive Council Meeting
9am—12pm

OCTOBER 9, 2009
Strategic Planning Meeting
9am— 11am

OCTOBER 13, 2009
SACS Meeting
12pm—2pm

Deans Meeting
2pm—4pm

OCTOBER 14-15, 2009
IHL Board

OCTOBER 19, 2009
Leadership Team Meeting
9am—5pm

OCTOBER 20, 2009
Strategic Planning Meeting
9am— 11am

OCTOBER 23-25, 2009
Registry of Colleges & Universities

OCTOBER 27, 2009
Deans Meeting
2pm—4pm

Upcoming Events…

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY WITH ENTERGY
October 30, 2009
Port Gibson, MS
Entergy would like for ASU to partner with "Weatherization Project" and spend the day working in teams to make five homes in Claiborne more efficient. Only 7 people needed (staff or students).
Contact: Dr. Ruth Nichols at rnichols@alcorn.edu.

FACES OF A HEALTHY FUTURE: NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO END HEALTH DISPARITIES II
November 3-6, 2009
Winston-Salem, NC
www.facesofahealthyfuture.com

FACULTY DIVERSITY IN SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS AT THE U.S. COAST GUARD ACADEMY
October 26, 2009
USCG Headquarters
Washington, DC
Contact: Ms. Bonnie Fogell at 860-444-8285 or Bonnie.L.Fogell@uscg.mil

Opportunities...

INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS FOR AFRICANS AND AFRICANS IN THE DIASPORA

ASU has received an invitation to support and provide education and training for Africans on the continent and the African Diasporans in the US , through involvement in research and development in agriculture, food production, processing, packaging and, marketing, as well as other critical areas of interest. For more information regarding research development projects for Africans please visit **www.usadcworldgroup.org** or contact the Office of Academic Affairs.

SWAC FINANCIAL AID COUNCIL

Opportunity to develop a Financial Aid Council made up of head financial aid officers from varies universities. Headed by Texas Southern University. Contact: Dr. Sunny Ohia, Provost, at 713-313-1134 or ohiase@tsu.edu

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