

ISSUE

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## OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

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### *FROM MY DESK TO YOURS*

#### **Greetings!**

Last week alumni from across the country returned to Alcorn to participate in reunions, and other festive activities all culminating with an impressive win for the Braves in our football game with Alabama A&M University. This week we are back to the important tasks of studying, attending classes, and planning the future of the University. While it may now appear to be back to the rigors of our usual educational business, it is important to understand that the current day is anything but business as usual.

The activities of the SACS Reaffirmation Committee, the Strategic Planning Committee and the expanding involvement of the University Planning Committee are all important endeavors that will help us plot the future for ASU. Our normal agenda has been expanded by the taxing character of the local, state, and national economic conditions. We are now being charged to review our academic program offerings and support services as we face the reality of reduced state appropriations for higher education.

We will have to assess the effectiveness of all we do in the classroom and campus-wide programs. To help assess the effectiveness and productivity of the academic sector of the University, the Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) has been created to look at all program outcomes and determine which should receive increased funding and which may have to be curtailed or deleted. In order to ensure that there is widespread involvement of the ASU community, the APRC membership includes faculty, staff, students, and administrators, which will meet on a regular basis for the remainder of the fall semester. At the conclusion of the review process, recommendations for changes in the academic program will be forwarded to President Ross. The proceedings of the APRC will be assessable through links provided in issues of this newsletter. The membership of the APRC is included in this issue.

Best of success as we return to our academic routine for the remainder of the term.

**Ex<sup>3</sup>S**  
**Richard Green**

## Academic Process Review Committee Members

**Dr. Richard Green**, Chair, Academic Process Review  
**Dr. Dickson Idusuyi**, President, Faculty Senate  
**Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd**, President, Faculty Senate  
**Mr. Kevin Appleton**, Chief Financial Officer  
**Mr. Ryan Martin**, SGA President  
**Ms. Commie Hahn-Willis**, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs  
**Dr. Samuel White**, Dean, School of Arts and Sciences  
**Dr. Donzell Lee**, Dean, School of Graduate Studies  
**Dr. Edward Vaughn**, Dean, College of Excellence  
**Dr. William Piper**, Dean, School of Business  
**Dr. Cynthia Scurria**, Chair, Department of English and Foreign Languages  
**Dr. Dovi Alipoe**, Chair, Department of Agriculture  
**Dr. Lawrence Konecky**, Chair, Department of Fine Arts  
**Dr. Lixin Yu**, Chair, Department of Math and Computer Science  
**Dr. Ramesh Maddali**, Director, Office of Institutional Research  
**Mr. Jimmy Smith**, Registrar, Office of the Registrar

[Download the Academic Process Review Minutes here.](#)

## NASA Opportunities for College Students

### 2009 NASA Postdoctoral Program Accepting Applications

The NASA Postdoctoral Program provides talented postdoctoral scientists and engineers with valuable opportunities to engage in ongoing NASA research projects. The Postdoctoral Program serves as a source of talent to ensure the continued quality of the NASA research workforce. These one- to- three-year fellowship appointments are competitive and are designed to advance NASA's missions in space science, Earth science, aeronautics, space operations, exploration systems and astrobiology.

Applications for this opportunity are due on Nov. 1, 2009. For further information about this opportunity and to apply online, visit <http://nasa.orau.org/postdoc/description/index.htm>. Questions regarding this opportunity may be submitted by e-mail to [nasapost-doc@orau.org](mailto:nasapost-doc@orau.org).

### Graduate Education Program in Space Life Sciences

The NSBRI-sponsored training program in space life sciences enables students to work toward a Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D. at Texas A&M University and focus their research on space life sciences and fields related to the space initiative. Texas A&M is currently recruiting participants for fall 2010. Students will pursue doctoral degrees in kinesiology, nuclear engineering (health physics) or nutrition, or a M.D./Ph.D. or Ph.D. in medical sciences.

Application packages are due Feb. 15, 2010.

### *Congratulations...*

**Dr. Edward Vaughn**, Dean of College for Excellence, 2010 conference proposal entitled "*First Generation Y Students: Who They Are, How They Work*" has been accepted by the National Association for Development

## NASA Opportunities for College Students Con't.

### 2010 RASC-AL Competition for College Students

NASA and the National Institute of Aerospace announce the 2010 Revolutionary Aerospace Systems Concepts Academic Linkage Competition. RASC-AL is a design project competition aimed at university-level engineering students.

The RASC-AL contest challenges participants to design projects based on real NASA projects. These design projects could then potentially be implemented by NASA.

Student teams must submit an abstract for their proposed project by Feb. 5, 2010. Their work must be based on one of four themes: lunar outpost to settlement, technology-enabled human Mars mission, bringing the world along with participatory exploration, and common lunar sortie/near-Earth object mission design. The RASC-AL Steering Committee of NASA and industry experts will evaluate the proposals and select as many as ten undergraduate and five graduate teams to compete against each other at a forum in June 2010 in Florida.

For more information about this competition, visit <http://www.nianet.org/rascal/index.html>. If you have questions about this competition, please contact Audrey Staples at [Audrey.Staples@nianet.org](mailto:Audrey.Staples@nianet.org).

### National Space Biomedical Research Institute Announces Opportunities for College Students

The National Space Biomedical Research Institute seeks solutions to health concerns facing astronauts on long missions. This research also benefits patients on Earth. The NSBRI has two exciting opportunities for college students on several levels.

#### National Space Biomedical Research Institute Summer Internship Program

The NSBRI's summer program is for graduate or medical students and undergraduate students who have completed their second year of undergraduate studies. Applicants are asked to send a curriculum vitae or resume, a letter of interest indicating available dates during the summer, and two letters of recommendation. The program is open to U.S. citizens.

The deadline to apply for the 2010 program is Jan. 31, 2010.

For more information, visit <http://www.nsbri.org/Education/SummerInternship.html>. Questions about this opportunity should be directed to [info@www.nsbri.org](mailto:info@www.nsbri.org).

## 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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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