



# TROY TODAY

*A look inside Troy University for faculty and staff*

**May 21, 2010**

## *Inside Today*

- TROY News** 2
- TROY People** 5
- Around TROY** 8

## Paying tribute

### Phenix City academic building to be named in memory of Dr. Curtis Pitts

The Troy University Board of Trustees has voted to name an academic building at the Phenix City Campus in honor of founding administrator Dr. Curtis Pitts who passed away in March.

Board members approved the resolution during the group's meeting on the Troy Campus on May 7. The building housing the College of Education at the Phenix City Campus will be named "Curtis Pitts Hall" in memory of Dr. Pitts' service,

dedication and leadership.

Trustee John D. Harrison praised Dr. Pitts for his steadfast support of TROY over the years.



**Dr. Pitts**

"He was always a number-one stalwart supporter of the University," Harrison said. "He was truly a great Trojan."

Trustee Allen Owen said Dr. Pitts' leadership

was instrumental in the development of the Phenix City Campus as a leading institution for non-traditional students in the Chattahoochee Valley.

"Here we are today with a beautiful campus and excellent academic buildings and we hope to do even more in downtown Phenix City," Owen said.

Dr. Pitts was the chief administrator of the Phenix Campus since its establishment in 1975.

**See PITTS, Page 3**



**Order your TROY for Troops coin today. See details at [www.troy.edu](http://www.troy.edu).**



**Ground breaking** – Troy University officials break ground on a new dining facility with capacity to serve 1,000 students at one time. The facility, which will feature a variety of dining options, will open in fall 2011 between Hawkins-Adams-Long Hall of Honor and Clements Hall on the Troy Campus. Pictured, from left to right, are: Jeff Bazzell of Seay, Seay and Litchfield Architects, Student Government Association President William Fillmore, Trustees John Harrison, Lamar P. Higgins and Karen Carter, President Pro-Tem Dr. Doug Hawkins, Troy First Lady Janice Hawkins, Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., Trustees Forrest Latta, Gen. Ed Crowell, Allen Owen, Roy Drinkard and Charles Nailen, and Senior Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business Affairs Jim Bookout.

# Dean appointed

Dr. Judson Edwards to lead University's Sorrell College of Business

**T**roy University officials announced May 7 the appointment of Dr. Judson Edwards as dean of the Sorrell College of Business.

The announcement came from Dr. Jack Hawkins Jr., Chancellor, to the University's Board of Trustees during its meeting in Hawkins Hall.

Dr. Edwards, has been an associate professor of economics and director of the University's Center International Business and Economic Development since joining TROY in 2006.

"Dr. Edwards has the vision to lead the Sorrell College of Business into an ever-changing global economy," said Dr. Jack Hawkins Jr., Chancellor. "His commitment to exposing our students to this environment, combined with his experience in the academic world, public sector and private enterprise, will move us forward."

An undergraduate alumnus of TROY, Dr. Edwards earned a master of science in economic development and a doctorate in international development from The University of Southern Mississippi. Before returning to his alma mater, he served as tenure-

track faculty at The University of Southern Mississippi and the University of North Dakota. While at Southern Miss, he directed the economic development master's degree program and led numerous applied research projects for economic development organizations and industry.



**Dr. Edwards**

"This young man has outstanding leadership skills and we're fortunate to have him in this new role," said Dr. Ed Roach, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost. "We're very excited about him taking this new role as dean."

Outside of academia, Dr. Edwards serves on the board of The Council for Community and Economic Research and is a member of the Agriculture Advisory Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. His professional experience includes numerous leadership positions in economic development organizations to include director of research for the

Lamar County (Miss.) Economic Development District and director of Economic Development and Planning for City of Phenix City, Alabama.

"Throughout the Sorrell College, we have quality faculty who understand that success in teaching, research and outreach is dependent on our ability to build meaningful relationships with business and industry," Dr. Edwards said. "I plan to work closely with our faculty to foster an environment in which new ideas and new initiatives can come forward that will help us continue to develop students who are prepared for the global business environment of the 21st Century."

Dr. Edwards has on-going business consultations with various local, state and regional governments and private industry. He holds national certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional.

"Keeping our educational philosophy centered on the 'real world' of business, gives us the ability to make significant contributions in the communities we serve," he said.



**Morrison honored** – Dr. Rodger D. Morrison, an assistant professor in the Sorrell College of Business at the Montgomery Campus, was named the 2010 Teacher of the Year by members of the Gamma Beta Phi student honor society. Dr. Morrison is presented the award by Gamma Beta Phi President Tanesha Munnerlyn during the Montgomery Campus spring commencement ceremony, which was held Monday night in the Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts on the Montgomery Campus.

# Connecting with the world

New study abroad director hopes to build on University's global relationships

Troy University's new study abroad director believes relationships already in place across the globe will jumpstart growth of the study abroad program.

"Troy University was one of the first universities in the United States to enter the process of internationalization and study abroad allows TROY students to get abroad but also to connect to the world," said Orlando Pacheco, who assumed his duties in April.

And the best way to connect TROY students to the global marketplace is through first using relationships already in place with universities outside the U.S.

"We can build on the relationships we already have – such as in the UAE, Vietnam, Malaysia and others locations, and then move from there into helping faculty develop new programs," he said.

Pacheco, a native of Costa Rica who is completing a doctorate at the University of Pittsburgh in international compar-

ative analysis, earned his masters degree in political science at the University of



Pacheco

Louisville and a graduate degree at the Latin American College of Social Sciences. He completed his undergraduate degree in international relations at National University in Costa Rica.

He joins TROY from Clayton State University

where he was an assistant professor of education and associate director for International Programs. Prior to his stint at Clayton State, he was associate researcher and managing director of the Institute for International Studies in Education at the University of Pittsburgh.

"Our most important goal for study abroad is that our students learn about cultures and be internationally competent," he said. "Our graduates need to be able to deal and operate in the international environment and study abroad

enhances their professional performance."

"We want our students to be prepared to do business and maneuver in the context of another culture whether it is in theater, business, or other disciplines," he said.

In addition to program development, Dr. Curt Porter, Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs, said Pacheco would also focus on planning, logistics and safety issues associated with international study.

"We expect to see a qualitative difference in our students in 10 years because of study abroad," he said. "Cultural competence is a weak area in our students today and they tend to be uncertain outside the Deep South, so it's important for them to travel abroad."

In the near term, Porter and Pacheco expect to see two permanent study abroad programs hosted by each college, with a variety of temporary program offerings on a yearly basis.

## Pitts

Continued from Page 1

He passed away on March 31 at a hospital in Charlotte, NC, where he had been recovering from injuries sustained in an automobile accident last year.

Highlights of Dr. Pitts' tenure at Phenix City include a successful \$1 million fundraising campaign that exceeded its goal in a year, the establishment of the landmark "live class on tape" distance-learning initiative and the construction of three academic buildings and one maintenance building.

Dr. Pitts also laid the groundwork for a proposed future academic complex to be built on the Phenix City

Riverfront.

Prior to his career at TROY, Dr. Pitts spent 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. His skill as a fighter pilot during Vietnam was recognized with several awards including the Barry Goldwater Top Gun Award, the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

The College of Education building is the most recently completed academic building at the Phenix City Campus. The 27,000 square-foot facility was dedicated in 2001. It also houses the Center for Professional Development, computer labs and distance learning classrooms.

## Montgomery Campus to launch new weekend format for master's program

Troy University will launch a new weekend format for the Master of Science in Human Resource Management program starting this fall at the Montgomery Campus.

The new format is designed to be more accessible to working HR managers or professionals who currently hold responsibilities in the field, said Dr. Anthony Rhee, associate dean of the Sorrell College of Business.

"This program offers advanced study in human resource management designed to present HR professionals with the opportunity to further develop strategic managerial, leadership, and decision-making skills," Dr. Rhee said.

The program is 30 credit hours and features an alternate-weekend format that can be completed in one year. It emphasizes advanced strategic applications of theory and practice of HR leadership essential to the advancement of organizational strategic objectives.

The new program is a companion offering to the alternate-weekend, one-year Master of Science in Management program and is an executive-style complement to the weeknight MSHRM degree currently offered.

# Learning communities

New program designed to ease students' transition college life to begin in the fall

**T**roy University will implement a new program in fall 2010 designed to help students who are conditionally admitted or are undecided on an academic major.

The program, called "learning communities," is designed to help students make the academic and social transition to college life, according to Jonathan Cellon, Coordinator of Student Learning Initiatives in the Office of First-Year Studies at TROY.

"Learning communities are small groups of students who share academic characteristics and enroll together in common courses of study for two semesters," Cellon said. "We are also planning activities outside of

class to help students socialize with others, explore personal interests and build academic and social skills."

Cellon said that three learning communities will be developed for fall semester 2010, with two of the communities limited to 18 students each and a third limited to 24 students. Due to the limited number of slots, students must apply to join a learning community separate from the University's admissions process.

"Students enrolled in learning communities will receive benefits such as specialized advising, co-curricular programs and early registration," Cellon said.

The first three learning communi-

ties are:

- Explore LC, designed for students who have not declared a major and are "unsure of their academic and career direction," according to Cellon.

- Passage LC—designed for students who have received conditional admission.

- Generation 1 LC—designed for conditionally admitted first-generation college students.

"This is a new concept for Troy University, although learning communities have been successful elsewhere," Cellon said. "We're excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our incoming students."

## *Grand opening celebration for new Columbus Site set for June 3*

Troy University will officially open its new Columbus, Ga., site on June 3 with a grand opening celebration.

Located at 506 Manchester Expressway, the open house will take place from 4 p.m. until 6 p.m. The new location is in the North Columbus Business Park and the new facility houses faculty and staff offices, student services, business departments, classrooms and laboratories.

"Troy University has close ties to the military and is located on several military installations across the world. The Columbus/Ft. Benning Site will continue to provide service to meet the educational needs of the service members and civilians on post," said Dr. Donna Myers, Columbus/Ft. Benning Site Director.

The University had been located on Fort Benning since 1976, but moved off-base to help the Army accommodate additional soldiers relocating from Fort Knox. Many of the Soldiers Plaza buildings, including the one TROY inhabited were demolished in order for the Army to build new space for the influx of new troops.

The National Testing Center and two student services representatives will remain on base in offices on the second floor of Soldiers Plaza Building 2612.

All TROY alumni, current students and community members are invited to attend the grand opening celebration. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony attendants will have the opportunity to tour the facility and enjoy a reception, Dr. Myers said.

## *Visiting scholar appreciative of opportunity at TROY*

Troy University students have had the opportunity to learn more about the Chinese culture during the spring semester while the College of Arts and Sciences plays host to a visiting scholar from Hebei University of Technology.

A scholar in English from Qinhuangdao, China, Xiaofeng Chen's mission has been to not only enlighten the students at TROY but also the students at her home university.

During her three months on the Troy Campus, Xiaofeng said she has thoroughly enjoyed her experience.

"I didn't feel good about it at first, because I didn't have transportation, but everybody here is so nice and helpful. The broad smiles from strangers make me feel very welcomed," she said.

She holds both bachelors and masters degree in English from Hebei Normal University, where she is an English professor in the College of Foreign Languages and is the director of Teaching Affairs for Foreign Teachers. She earned a second masters degree in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages at the University of York in England.

## A smiling face

Scanlon's pleasant attitude, work ethic earn her the May McKinley Award

**L**inda Scanlon, information desk supervisor for Auxiliary Services at Troy University's Montgomery Campus, has received the University's Vergil Parks McKinley Award for May.

Scanlon, who has been a member of the Troy University staff since 1996, received the award during a ceremony Tuesday in the General Academic Building on the Troy Campus. Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor, presented the award to Scanlon, who was nominated by Rachel Skipworth, Auxiliary Services coordinator.

The McKinley Award is the highest honor that Troy University gives to a non-faculty staff member. It is presented monthly to an employee who has demonstrated outstanding attitude, innovation and work ethic. The award was established by former Texaco CEO John McKinley in honor of his father, Vergil Parks McKinley, who was a Troy University professor during the early 20th century and was key to the development of the University's athletic program. Winners of this award receive an engraved clock and a \$350 stipend.

In a letter of nomination, Skipworth praised Scanlon for her dedication and work ethic.

"Linda Scanlon is a very hard-working individual who strives to maintain a professional and efficient work environment," Skipworth said. "She goes beyond the call of duty to make sure students, faculty, staff and visitors are taken care of in a timely manner. As a Troy University employee, she truly cares about her job and the University. She takes pride in her job and in making sure everyone has a good experience while on the Troy University campus."



**Linda Scanlon, information desk supervisor at Troy University's Montgomery Campus, receives the University's Vergil Parks McKinley Award for May from TROY Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., during a ceremony on Tuesday. Scanlon was nominated for the award by Rachel Skipworth, Auxiliary Services coordinator (left).**

Scanlon was surprised by the award.

"Working for Troy University has been an absolute joy for me," Scanlon said. "I have worked with so many wonderful people through the years. I am very grateful to receive this award."



**Reward Callers** – Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., congratulates winners of the Reward Caller Awards for May during a ceremony on Tuesday on the Troy Campus. Winners, from left to right, are: Marian Bass of the University's Transcripts Office, David Griffin of the Department of Mathematics and Physics and Tyease Holmes of the Department of Teacher Education. Not pictured is Latasha Robertson of the Sumter, SC Site. Winners of the monthly award receive \$25.

## Activities & achievements

**Pamela T. Dunning**, assistant professor of the Master of Public Administration program in the College of Arts and Sciences, Atlantic Region, spearheaded a unique networking event for the membership of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration in January.

Dr. Dunning moderated a question and answer session with two area city managers addressing the distinct challenges facing local government employees during a time of fiscal constraint and increasing regional demands.

...

**John Dunning**, retired and adjunct assistant professor of the Master of Public Administration Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, Atlantic Region, orchestrated a successful Research Symposium for the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration in March.

Dr. Dunning put together a truly collaborative effort with over 60 professionals including representation from five universities, four regional cities and two non-profit organizations focused on improved public service.

...

A paper by **Dr. William Foxx**, assistant professor of marketing in the Sorrell College of Business on the Montgomery Campus, titled, "Assessing the Damage: An Exploratory Examination of Electronic Word of Mouth," has been accepted for publication in the special issue, *Journal of Global Academy of Marketing Science*. It will be

published in the forthcoming issue in early July.

...

**Dr. Alan D. Campbell**, associate professor of accounting in the Sorrell College of Business on the Montgomery Campus, has had his paper titled, "Determining the Amount and Character of a Gain or Loss on the Sale of Real Estate," accepted for publication in *Practical Tax Strategies*. The paper will likely appear in the August issue.

...

**Cheron N. Hunter**, assistant professor of education on the Phenix City Campus, and fellow doctoral candidate at Auburn University Thomandra Sam, presented the paper "Engaging and Mobilizing White Professionals Toward Multicultural Practices: Enhancing Psychologist and Teacher Training," at the 14th annual Holmes Partnership Conference in Charleston, SC, earlier this year.

The duo also presented on the same topic at the Auburn University Diversity Research Initiative Conference in March.

In addition, Hunter, Sam and C. Shamberger presented "Multicultural and Collaborative Practices to Enhance the Training of White Teachers and Psychologists and the Preparation of Diverse Faculty" at the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education's 62nd annual meeting in Atlanta, GA, in February.

Hunter also received a second place poster presentation award at the National Black Graduate Student Association's national conference in San Diego in March.

## *NCTE names Dr. Bynum to state coordinator post*

Dr. Robin Bynum, associate dean of the College of Education at Troy University's Dothan Campus, was recently appointed



**Dr. Bynum**

to serve as state coordinator for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines (PRESLM).

PRESLM is an NCTE-sponsored competition open to senior high, junior high, and middle schools in the United States and Canada, and to American

schools abroad. The state coordinator receives entries and directs the work of the state judges.

The student magazines are rated on the basis of literary quality, types of writing involved, quality of editing and graphic design, and student involvement in production.

Dr. Bynum joined TROY's faculty full-time in 2003. Prior to that, she was an administrator in the Dothan City School System. She holds a doctorate from the University of Sarasota and both a master's and bachelor's degree from Tuskegee University.

## *McKinley Award nominations sought*

Nominations for the the Vergil Parks McKinley Employee Award are being sought by the Office of Human Resources.

The McKinley Award is the highest honor that Troy University gives to a non-faculty staff member. It is presented monthly to an employee who has demonstrated outstanding attitude, innovation and work ethic.

Winners of this award receive an engraved clock and a \$350 stipend.

Nomination forms are available on the Office of Human Resources page on the TROY Website at [www.troy.edu](http://www.troy.edu).

If you have submitted a nomination within the last year, it is not necessary for you to submit a new one. To update your nomination, a memo is requested with any corrections.

All nominations should be sent to the Office of Human Resources. For additional information, contact HR at 334-670-3710.

## ‘Lunch and Learn’

Dr. James Rinehart to address function of religion in international conflict in presentation

Religion is an effective, influential rule-following behavior that assists in achieving group goals, says a Troy University professor.

Dr. James F. Rinehart, professor of international relations and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will deliver a talk about religion's impact entitled "The Intervening Function of Religion in International Conflict."

His address is part of "MacDill Lunch and Learn" from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. June 4 in the Surf's Edge Club. The cost of lunch is \$12.

Dr. Rinehart is the former chairman of the University's Department of Political Science. He joined TROY in 1995 as director of the United States

Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at the University's Fort Bragg, N.C. campus. His areas of expertise include terrorism, counterterrorism, U.S. foreign policy, religion in world politics and national security.

Scholars of international relations remain uncomfortable with the challenge of accommodating religion in the discipline. The concept is one of growing significance to the field of study; events around the world confirm that fact every day. Nonetheless, religion is often treated as an oversimplified notion, remaining largely on the margins of what most scholars believe to be a secular subject, Dr. Rinehart said.

Dr. Rinehart hypothesizes that rather than an unfulfilled need of politically violent groups, religion is an intervening device of significant influence that assists in the achievement of a far more complex menu of group needs. In contrast to recent research that pursues the study of religion in international conflict as primarily a theological phenomenon, his paper casts religion as primarily a behavioral phenomenon. It assumes that religion is not a need. Rather, it is an effective, influential rule-following behavior that contributes to a broad array of group needs.

The June 4 event will be Dr. Rinehart's third such presentation at MacDill.



**Special Olympics** – Close to 800 athletes from throughout Alabama gathered on the Troy Campus May 14-16 for the 2010 Alabama Special Olympic State Games. At left, Tim Bemer of Mobile competes in the running long jump. Above, runners prepare for the start of a preliminary heat for the 100 meter race. At right, Sheldon Morris of the Southwest Alabama District receives the gold medal for the 100 meter run.



# Commencement

Dr. John Kline to address Phenix City Campus graduates tonight

**D**r. John A. Kline, distinguished professor of leadership and director of Troy University's Institute for Leadership Development, will deliver the keynote address to graduates during spring commencement at the University's Phenix City Campus tonight.

The ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. EST inside the Columbus Civic Center.

Dr. Kline joined Troy University in 2000 as a professor of education and became director of the Institute for Leadership Development in 2003. He retired in 2000 as the provost and the highest ranking civilian employee at the United States Air Force's Air University.

Dr. Kline has numerous publications to his credit, including the books "Speaking Effectively: Achieving Excellence in Presentations," "Effective Listening: Achieving High Standards in Communication," and "Speaking Effectively: Guide for Air Force Speakers."



**Dr. Kline**

He holds a bachelor's degree in English and speech education from Iowa State University (1967) and a master's in speech communication (1968) and doctorate in communication theory, research and education (1970) from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Kline also completed the Federal Program for Senior Executives at the University of Virginia and the John F. Kennedy Summer Program in International Security at Harvard University.

He was the 2004 recipient of the Senior of Achievement Award for the Greater Montgomery River Region, the 2001 International Toastmaster's Award for Communication and Leadership and the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, the highest civilian peacetime award presented by the United States Air Force.

Dr. Kline and his wife, Ann, reside in Montgomery.

## *Art and Design faculty win ADDYs*

Troy University Design, Technology and Innovation students and faculty garnered 42 awards in American Advertising Federation competition, including five Best of Show designations.

The awards, presented by Federation chapters in Montgomery, Dothan and Birmingham, represent student and professional work and showcases TROY talent, said Jerry Johnson, chairman of the University's Art and Design Department.

In the professional category in AAF Montgomery competition, Johnson was named Best of Show Interactive and received a Gold ADDY for his work with Alabama Clay Conference and Alabama Craft Council.

Art professor Edward Noriega and student Aaron Johnson of Troy; Jerry Johnson and Richard Metzger, director the Johnson Center for the Arts; Thomas Mickwee, a student from Foley and Edward Noriega; Tyler Perry, a student from Troy, and Edward Noriega; Joe Lovitte and Edward Noriega; student Jessica Henderson, of Gadsden, and Edward Noriega; and art professor Sara Dismukes all garnered Silver ADDY awards.

## *Troy Campus to play host to HOBY Leadership Conference May 28-30*

More than 250 rising high school juniors will descend on Troy University to attend the Alabama Leadership Seminar's Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Conference May 28 – 30.

The event marks the sixth time in the conference's 29-year history in Alabama that it will be held at the University.

Modeled after HOBY's World Leadership Congress, and part of the HOBY program, the seminar provides an opportunity to build on leadership skills already possessed by the student ambassadors. Students are nominated by their respective high schools and are chosen to attend based on emerging leadership ability, the ability to work well

with others, a desire for new pursuits and a willingness to learn and share.

Students will hear from a wide variety of speakers on volunteerism, public and civic service and current events. They will also develop skits, write papers and meet with business and government leaders during the weekend.

One boy and one girl representing the state of Alabama will be chosen from the seminar to attend the HOBY World Leadership Congress in Washington, D.C. in late July.

HOBY has had more than 335,000 student ambassadors since its foundation in 1958 by actor Hugh O'Brian, most famous for his ABC Television role of Wyatt Earp.