ASSN NEWS August 2013



ASSN News

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ARTS & SCIENCE STAFF NETWORK - BRINGING YOU THE NEWS

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ASSN Events Highlights

by Ferrie Craighead, Diane Wyatt and Lisa Scheese

We are excited to announce that we had a total of 12 bowling teams this year. The highest team score went to the A&S Computer Splitters with a score of 1,276. The lowest team score went to I Can't Believe It's Not Gutter with a score of 800. The highest scoring team player went to Brian Maurer who was a member of The Quarter-Normal Stats. The lowest scoring team player went to Caitlin Meyer who was a member of the Spare Me team. Congrats to all!



A&S Computer Splitters pictured from back to front: Mike Watson, Jim Sappington, Robert De-Priest, Aboma Gallata, Eric Chiu

This year's ASSN staff retreat was especially exciting because of the professional development opportunities it provided our staff. A special shout out goes to Jenny Workman, Suzanne Hart, Stephen Alexander, Jessica Baker, Mike Watson, Rita Wells, Laura Bradshaw-Straub, Lieutenant April Colvin and Sargent Jennifer Lynch, who were instrumental in contributing to the success of programming for the day.

At the retreat, A&S staff said thank you and goodbye to the members who will not be returning to the board this year. The ASSN could not have been as successful in programming this year without the valuable contributions of Ferrie Craighead, Diane Wyatt, Patty Eggleston, Nancy Taube and Lucy Urlacher.



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Strickland Hall Highlights
Learn about the wonderful A&S Staff housed in Strickland Hall

Strickland Hall Staff Spotlight

by Lucy Urlacher

Strickland Hall...what a busy place! It is home to multiple Arts and Science departments and programs including: classical studies, film studies, German and Russian studies, philosophy, South Asian studies, and women's and gender studies. The German department also hosts courses in five other languages as well. Additional support staff in the building includes the A&S Web communication coordinator and the instructional designer of e-Learning.

Strickland Hall is located on Rollins Street between the MU Student Center and Tiger Plaza. This light brick, '70s-style building is named in honor of Arvarh E Strickland, MU's first tenured African-American Professor. The building name was changed to Strickland Hall in 2007.

Arts & Science staff at Strickland Hall consists of Jennifer Arnold, Anne-Marie Eckert, Shelda Eggers, Cathryn "Catt" Friel, Tammy McNiel, Jonni Paxton, and Debbie Strodtman.

With regard to everyday life at Mizzou, Shelda Eggers, of women's and gender studies (WGS), says, "I have to be a Jill-ofall-trades for this job." Anne-Marie Eckert (film studies), Debbie Strodtman (classical studies), Jennifer Arnold (German and Russian studies), and Jonni Paxton (philosophy) echoed that sentiment. Each of them is an administrative assistant or associate, and they take care of all fiscal tasks, do payroll, plan events, make travel arrangements, organize faculty evaluations and tenure files, schedule courses, plan for quest speakers, sort out student evaluations, assist faculty with grade submission, track enrollment, correspond with human resources, order books and supplies, and do other tasks as needed. Jennifer Arnold says, "I do whatever needs to be done!" Eggers has been with WGS since 1994, and in 2007, it changed from a program to a department. She likes the variety, the faculty, the layout of her space in relationship to faculty offices, and she has a great view of Tiger Plaza.

Strodtman began working at MU in 1974 and has been in classical studies since 1992. She has "gotten things nicely streamlined," which is good since the department is growing. She likes the variety and being able to help the faculty and students.

Arnold is the building coordinator and serves as the link between German and Russian studies and the International Center. She also does graphic design and develops fliers and brochures for the department. She loves the organizational work involved in conferences: travel, rooms, meals, etc., and having the opportunity to meet scholars who come from all pure the world.



Eckert and Arnold share an office space because the Film Studies Program is housed in the Department of German and Russian Studies. Eckert went from being a student at MU (she has degrees in animal science and international studies, and a minor and a master's degree in Russian) to being the staff member in film studies and German and Russian studies. Unique to her job is maintaining the film inventory, transferring from VHS to DVD or digital, and reviewing films and clips. Her study of Russian was a product of growing up in Alaska, where Russian is offered in high school.

Paxton has worked in four different colleges in her 26 years of working at MU. In 2005 she moved from the student-service side of the university to the philosophy department, returning to the academicoffice side. She loves "the challenges of

the office and working with the students. [...] Being a one-person, office people expect you to know about everything." Philosophy is the largest A&S department in Strickland Hall and Paxton particularly enjoys working with the 28 graduate students.

Tammy McNiel has been in Web communication at MU since January 2005 and the A&S Web communications coordinator since 2010. She has a degree in journalism and a master's in business administration and "fell into Web design." She has to be efficient to keep up with more than 200 A&S Web sites. She has eight active projects currently. Of the work she does Tammy says, "I love, love, love this job! I love the people and what I do."



Friel's job title is "instructional designer e-Learning." Friel has been helping the A&S faculty develop online courses since 2010, when this position was developed. Before that she was at the Division of Information Technology for 10 years. Since 2010 Friel has helped with the development of over 100 online courses. She likes working in Arts and Science because she works with a very wide variety of subjects and people. Right now she is working on about 20 courses for the fall. All of these courses are for a new, fully online bachelor of interdisciplinary studies and bachelor of general studies. She also helps instructors in A&S work with various educational technologies: iPads, clickers, Blackboard, and Tegrity video to name just a few.

Each woman expressed her love of the daily variety in her work. The College of Arts and Science certainly has a wealth of variety, experience, and enthusiasm in the staff in Strickland Hall!

Shelda Eggers



Jonni Paxton

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How Can the ASSN Web Site Help with My Professional Development?

by Lisa Scheese

Anyone who has been on the ASSN Web site lately will notice a dramatic restructuring of the site. This reconfiguration has been done to more closely align with the mission of promoting professional development and highlighting our exceptional staff. So what are some of the features of the new site?

Homepage

The homepage is designed to give a quick glance at events and staff highlights for the ASSN. On the home page you can also access the archives for past newsletters. A third component on the page is a link to donate to the Staff Endowment Fund. It is through this fund that we are able to reward exceptional staff, like you, in the College of Arts and Science.

Events

The events page is your one-stop shop for finding out about events that the ASSN is offering, and it also provides a recap of previous events. Attending events supported by the ASSN is a great chance to network with your colleagues in A&S. These events primarily serve one of two purposes for staff: 1) to provide professional development opportunities and 2) to thank our dedicated staff for a job well done.

A&S Spotlight

The A&S Spotlight page is strictly dedicated to highlighting our wonderful staff in the College of Arts & Science. The monthly spotlight person and our award winners are role models in the college. These individuals serve as a great resource to others and desire to make their work environment an effective and friendly place to reside. You have an opportunity to highlight one of your own colleagues by nominating a coworker for the monthly spotlight or, in the spring, for the Staff Appreciation Award.

Contacts

On the contacts page you will find information for each member of the ASSN board. We are here to serve you, so please do not hesitate to contact us. On this page you will also find a section for important numbers and departmental links that are useful to those in the college.

Professional Development

In our attempt to make access to professional development opportunities easier, we have created a professional development database. The goal of this database is to find free online professional development opportunities that can be done in the comfort of your home or office. For those who are seeking professional development opportunities requiring payment, a list of known professional development funds has also been placed on the page. This is a growing database and we need your help. If you have participated in an online professional development module that you found useful, or know of additional sources of funding available for staff, please let us know by e-mailing us at umcasassn@missouri.edu.

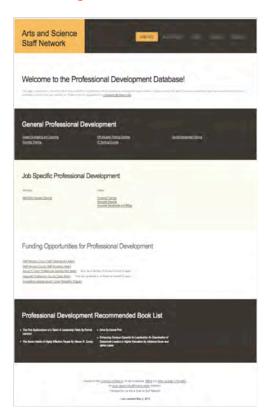
Feedback

Our feedback page is your opportunity to speak out. The ASSN is your liaison to the College of Arts and Science dean's office. If you have an idea or an issue that you would like to bring up, please let us know by submitting the feedback form. The board will review your submission in a timely manner and follow up with you regarding your idea or concern.

This Web site was designed specifically with you in mind; so if you have any ideas for the future of the site, please let us know.



Home Page



Professional Development Database

Announcements

- Mark your calendars now for Oct. 22–23 for the all-campus HRS training sessions. While topics have yet to be announced, you can find any updates at http://hrs.missouri.edu/training/all-employees/hrs-training-conference/index.php.
- Do you know of someone you would like to highlight on our staff spotlight? Please send your nominations to <u>um-casassn@missouri.edu</u>.
- MyLearn is a great, free resource for professional development provided by human resources. You can check out these opportunities by going to MyHR > main menu > self service> personal information> HR training
- Please be on the look out this fall for the annual ASSN fundraising bake sale to support professional development activities of the network. If you have an idea for an event you would like the ASSN to host to aid in networking or professional development, please send us an e-mail at umcasassn@missouri.edu

