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What's New at AASCU



Deadline is Approaching for AASCU Annual Meeting

To attend the Annual Meeting and receive the regular registration rate attendees must have payments or purchase orders sent by mail postmarked by **September 23, 2013. Register today!**



Your Role in the New Healthcare Insurance Exchanges

The health insurance exchanges created by the Affordable Care Act will open October 1. As you may know, these exchanges will be the primary vehicle for the uninsured to purchase health insurance. The White House and the Department of Health and Human Services request that AASCU member institutions lead efforts to inform students, faculty and staff about the exchanges. For more information about how you can help spread the word on your campus, **click here.**



New Students Featured in the AASCU First Generation Voices

Three new students share their experiences as First Generation Voices at www.aascu.org/members/first-generation-voices/featured-students/

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Programs

Frostburg State University (Md.)

This summer, Frostburg State University's College of Business sent a group of students, alumni and faculty to Peru as part of FSU's "Leadership in Latin America." The group met local community and government leaders in Cusco and college students studying business in Lima, participated in community service in an Andean village and studied Peru's culture and history in the context of leadership discussions at extraordinary sights such as Machu Picchu. **Read more**


Slippery Rock University (Pa.)

Slippery Rock University President Cheryl Norton has established a President's Commission on Wellness to further promotes a campus culture that embraces wellness as an essential fact of life for all people. Wellness is the sixth president's commission, joining sustainability, race and ethnic diversity, gender identity and sexual orientation, disability and status of women. **Read more**


The University of Texas-Pan American

The University of Texas Pan-American has been granted a new, higher peer group status by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), advancing from a comprehensive to doctoral institution. The new status, which took effect this month, will elevate UTPA into the

- Jackson State University (Miss.)**
- McNeese State University (La.)**
- Northwest Missouri State**
- Salisbury University (Md.)**
- San Diego State University (Calif.)**
- SIU Edwardsville**
- The College at Brockport, SUNY**
- University of North Georgia**
- Winthrop University (S.C.)**

Presidential Honors 

- Northern Arizona University**
- Southeast Missouri State University**

Awards & Honors 

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- California State University, Los Angeles**
- California State University, Monterey Bay**
- Eastern Oregon University**
- Edinboro University (Pa.)**
- Jackson State University (Miss.)**
- Millersville University of Pennsylvania**
- Pittsburg State University (Kan.)**
- The University of Texas-Pan American**

same category as higher education institutions like Sam Houston State University, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, and Texas A&M-Kingsville. [Read more](#)

Winthrop University (S.C.)

Winthrop University students in this year's Summer Undergraduate Research Experience worked on numerous projects, including helping to cure Alzheimer's disease, learning about human heart development through interaction with sea squirts, working with chicken embryos to help understand human retinal eye development and testing enzymes in plants to help create biofuels.

[Read more](#)

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Worth Noting

Cooldest Schools

Several AASCU colleges and universities were named in Sierra magazine's annual ranking of the nation's "Cooldest Schools," a salute to U.S. colleges that are helping solve climate problems and making significant efforts to operate sustainably. [Read more](#)

Public Colleges of Distinction

Colleges of Distinction, a college guide that focuses on the success of graduates, the quality of teaching, the atmosphere on campus, etc. has recognized a number of AASCU members in its 2013-2014 public colleges of distinction guide. [Read more](#)

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Grants and Gifts

Appalachian State University (N.C.)

Appalachian State University has received \$297,529 from the Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan, to continue an exchange project between public schools in Watauga County, N.C., and Taxila, Pakistan. [Read more](#)

Black Hills State University (S.D.)

Two Black Hills State University students recently earned NASA research stipends for their current projects. Tayler Ripley and Jillian Draine, both pursuing double majors in chemistry and biology in the School of Natural Sciences, were selected by the NASA South Dakota Space Grant Consortium Management Team. [Read more](#)

California State University, Fresno

Driven by his vision to support scholarships, an alumnus of California State University, Fresno spent 40 years quietly and steadily building his worth through investments and real estate. He declined any fanfare, and when he died in January, the value of his estate had topped \$5 million. His gift to the university will establish endowments funding full-tuition scholarships for more than 20 Fresno State students every year in perpetuity. [Read more](#)

Edinboro University (Pa.)

Through the efforts of Professor Umeme Sababu of Edinboro University's History, Anthropology and World Languages Department, the University was awarded a grant from the National

University of Houston-Clear Lake

Western Illinois University

Winthrop University (S.C.)

Spotlight



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San Diego State University (Calif.)

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith

University of Central Florida

University of North Georgia

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Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) that includes a packaged set of NEH-funded films on Civil Rights history, accompanied by programming resources to guide public conversations about the changing meanings of freedom and equality in U.S. history. [Read more](#)

Frostburg State University (Md.)

A team of Frostburg State University computer science faculty members and students, led by Dr. Brad Rinard, will partner with a Cumberland, Md.-based technology company, Berkeley Springs Instruments LLC (BSI), to develop the user interface for its oil pipeline monitoring system. The partnership is made possible thanks to a \$135,912 grant Rinard received from the Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) program. [Read more](#)

Georgia College

Author Flannery O'Connor, '45, is one of Georgia College's most well known alumni. Famous for works like "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" and "Good Country People," the acclaimed writer has influenced people around the world. It's that legacy and broad interest in O'Connor's writings that prompted Bruce Gentry to apply for a grant. "We were awarded a nearly \$194,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to host a four-week summer institute," said Gentry, professor of English and editor of the "Flannery O'Connor Review." [Read more](#)

Jackson State University (Miss.)

- Jackson State University's Research Centers at Minority Institutions (RCMI) Center for Environmental Health (CEH) has been awarded a \$10.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health-National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The five-year grant will be used to enhance the center's biomedical infrastructure to support research that addresses environmental and public health issues impacting vulnerable and underserved communities. [Read more](#)
- Jackson State University was named the recipient of the 2013 Distinguished Professor Endowed Chair Award at the July 12 public meeting of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority 51st National Conference and Centennial Celebration in Washington, D.C. The \$220,000 award will support the university's effort in the School of Social Work for research on the role African-American grandfathers play in child rearing. [Read more](#)

McNeese State University (La.)

McNeese State University is one of 19 universities awarded a grant in a national competition to advance and strengthen regional economies. McNeese will use the \$102,590 grant to become the hub of innovation for Southwest Louisiana business and industry. [Read more](#)

Northwest Missouri State

- Northwest Missouri State University has received \$1.25 million from an alumna; the funds will be used to directly impact students and faculty as well as enhance the learning environment. [Read more](#)
- An Iowa couple have committed \$250,000 to the University to assist with planned improvements at its R.T Wright Farm that include a proposed Agricultural Resource Center. [Read more](#)

Salisbury University (Md.)

With an eye to bolstering employment, a Baltimore-based foundation has committed \$1 million to the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business at Salisbury University for grants and loan guarantees to start new businesses. Over a five-year period, the Philip E. and Carole R. Ratcliffe

Foundation will offer as much as \$200,000 annually to entrepreneurs looking to create startups.

[Read more](#)

San Diego State University (Calif.)

Sanford Bernstein, an SDSU distinguished professor of biology, is the recent recipient of two multi-year grants from the National Institutes of Health that total \$3.5 million. Bernstein has received more than \$16 million in research funding during his career at SDSU which has supported students, postdoctoral fellows and professional staff who carry out investigations on the tiny muscles of fruit flies to unlock new treatments for human muscle and cardiac diseases.

[Read more](#)

SIU Edwardsville

SIUE has received a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation. During the next five years, the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program at SIUE will graduate and certify 36 secondary science teachers to serve in high-needs rural and urban communities in southwestern Illinois.

[Read more](#)

The College at Brockport, SUNY

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Jose R. Torre a \$157,090 grant to support efforts to educate school teachers about the rich history of the nineteenth century reform movement in Rochester. Torre was awarded the grant to direct a Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop. [Read more](#)

University of North Georgia

The University of North Georgia has received a \$99,999 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to expand a successful technology-based project that could help more students complete college. UNG will be part of the Gates Foundation's study of the effectiveness of adaptive learning, which uses technology to provide interactive, personalized instruction so students can contribute to classroom discussions and group work. [Read more](#)

Winthrop University (S.C.)

Winthrop University science faculty members worked full time this summer to research iron uptake in pneumonia, cardiac regeneration and the breakdown of plant material to use for energy, thanks to recently awarded federal grants from the National Science Foundation. The latest round of federal grants awarded this spring—totaling more than \$100,000—comes from a pool of money designed to build a scientific workforce to support novel research efforts and to increase education opportunities for underrepresented minority students. [Read more](#)

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Presidential Honors

Northern Arizona University

Northern Arizona University President John Haeger has been selected as the 2013 recipient of the prestigious Shirley Agnos Legacy Award from the Arizona Town Hall. "Dr. Haeger has a long and dedicated record of working to improve our state and the lives of our citizens and a proven record of creating consensus positions from differing points of view," said Town Hall President Tara Jackson.

[Read more](#)

Southeast Missouri State University

Kenneth W. Dobbins, president of Southeast Missouri State University, has been appointed by

Missouri Governor Jay Nixon as a commissioner for the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC). MHEC is one of four interstate compacts in the nation devoted to advancing cooperation and resource sharing in higher education with headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn.

[Read more](#)

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Awards and Honors

Angelo State University (Texas)

Angelo State University's Air Force ROTC Detachment 847 has been named the 2013 High Flight winner as the top medium-sized detachment in the Southwest Region for the second consecutive year and the fourth time in the past seven years. [Read more](#)

California State University, Los Angeles

Carlos Gutiérrez, professor of chemistry at California State University, Los Angeles, is one of only three scientists from the Los Angeles area to be named an American Chemical Society (ACS) Fellow for 2013. Professor Gutiérrez, along with the other new ACS Fellows, will be recognized at a formal ceremony during the Society's national meeting in Indianapolis, Ind. on Monday, Sept. 9.

[Read more](#)

California State University, Monterey Bay

California State University, Monterey Bay has earned the Higher Education Civic Engagement Award presented by The Washington Center and the New York Life Foundation. CSUMB was one of five colleges and universities selected for the honor among more than 100 nominees. [Read more](#)

Eastern Oregon University

An Eastern Oregon University chemistry professor is being recognized in a big way by one of the world's largest scientific organizations. Anna Cavinato is joining an elite group – the 2013 class of American Chemical Society Fellows – and will be celebrated along with 95 others at the society's national meeting in Indianapolis Sept. 9. [Read more](#)

Edinboro University (Pa.)

"Fat Jersey Blues," a book of poetry by John Repp, professor in Edinboro University's Department of English & Theatre Arts, has been selected from among 385 entries as the winner of the prestigious 2013 Akron Poetry Prize, awarded annually by The University of Akron Press. [Read more](#)

Jackson State University (Miss.)

Jackson State University College of Public Service professor Mustafa Younis has been invited to serve on the 2014-2015 National Screening Committee for U.S. graduate students wishing to pursue study, research or professional training abroad under the Fulbright-Hays Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. [Read more](#)

Millersville University of Pennsylvania

Millersville's Winter and Visual and Performing Arts Center received an "Excellence in Construction Award" from Keystone Associated Builders and Contractors. [Read more](#)

Pittsburg State University (Kan.)

A Pittsburg State University faculty member has been named to the "Women to Watch" list by the Kansas Society of Certified Public Accountants. Becky Casey, chair of the accounting and

computer information systems department at PSU's Kelce College of Business, is one of two recipients of the "Women to Watch" award in the Experienced Leader category. [Read more](#)

The University of Texas-Pan American

Karen Lozano, the Julia Beecherl Endowed Chair and professor of mechanical engineering at The University of Texas-Pan American, has been appointed to serve on the National Science Foundation's Engineering Advisory Committee. [Read more](#)

University of Houston-Clear Lake

University of Houston-Clear Lake Professor of Fitness and Human Performance A. Eugene Coleman received the Boyd Epley Award for Lifetime Achievement during the National Strength and Conditioning Association's 36th National Conference in July. Coleman's work with NASA's Astronaut Training Manual and the Houston Astros contributed to his receiving the award, as well as his dedication to the NSCA over the course of his career. [Read more](#)

Western Illinois University

The 2013 16 Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients included Western Illinois University's own the Rev. Dr. Cordy Tindell "C.T." Vivian, a distinguished, author, organizer, and civil rights icon. The award has been given to more than 500 individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the security and national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors. [Read more](#)

Winthrop University (S.C.)

Roger Weikle, dean of Winthrop University's College of Business Administration, was recently appointed by the Board of Directors of the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International to its Initial Accreditation Committee. The committee is charged with receiving reports from peer review teams after field visits and ensuring that schools receive consistent reviews. [Read more](#)

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Spotlight

Black Hills State University (S.D.)

Black Hills State University student Nick Gale, history education major, recently won the Black Hills Chapter of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society's 2013 Essay Contest for his paper titled "Russia's gift to the Dakotas." In his essay, Gale describes the migration of Germans from Russia to South Dakota and the influence these settlers had on helping build the Dakota Territory. [Read more](#)

California State University, Fresno

- As the fall semester begins and students are eager to celebrate and renew friendships, a new "Protect Your 'Dogs Campaign" is under way at California State University, Fresno to increase awareness of alcohol overdose issues and encourage students to help each other out. [Read more](#)
- Community service by California State University, Fresno students, faculty, staff and administrators during the 2012-13 academic year exceeded 1 million hours for the fourth consecutive year. A total of 14,245 people contributed 1,055,257 hours of volunteer work benefiting organizations, churches and community events. [Read more](#)

California State University, San Bernardino

Two Cal State San Bernardino students, Audrey Hovanessian and Michelle Stone, ranked among the top 200 in a state-wide research competition, and both placed second among the best in the state in their respective competitive divisions. The 27th annual CSU Research Competition showcased excellent research conducted by California State University undergraduate and graduate students in the full range of academic programs offered by the CSU. [Read more](#)

Eastern Connecticut State University

Eastern Connecticut State University has been selected to participate in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrator's (NASPA) "Lead Initiative," a national effort centered on civic learning and democratic engagement (CLDE). Eastern is one of 73 institutions nationwide, and the only 4-year public institution in Connecticut accepted into this program. [Read more](#)

Edinboro University (Pa.)

David Hurd, professor of Geosciences and planetarium director at Edinboro University, has been invited by NASA to attend the launch of the Lunar Atmosphere and Dust Environment Explorer (LADEE) on Sept. 6 at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility in Wallops Island, Va.

[Read more](#)

Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne

- Audrey Ushenko, professor of fine arts, demonstrated her painting techniques in the James R. Thompson Center (JRTC) Atrium in Chicago during a week-long interactive project sponsored by the Illinois State Museum from July 22 to 26. Ushenko sketched and painted for the public, documenting the people who go through the building each day. [Read more](#)
- Clark Butler, professor of philosophy, presented a paper developing a new normative ethical theory, human rights ethics, at the 23rd World Congress of Philosophy in Athens, Greece, one of the field's most important annual gatherings. [Read more](#)

Jackson State University (Miss.)

Clement G. Yedjou, assistant professor of biology and CSET-Distance Learning Coordinator, has been selected along with more than 350 cancer researchers from prominent research institutions in 31 countries to tackle cancer's complexity. The initiative is called "The Halifax Project" and involves two separate task forces. [Read more](#)

San Diego State University (Calif.)

Arion Mayes, a San Diego State University anthropology professor, just returned from Oaxaca, Mexico where she and student researchers excavated burial grounds of more than 23 human and several animal remains that date as far back as 400 B.C. One of the most dramatic findings was evidence of dental modification that included inlays of exotic stones on the front teeth. The team also found a rare animal discovery — what they presume to be a puma — that showed evidence of having been an offering, deliberately placed near the wall of a structure. They excavated, reconstructed and analyzed the large cat burial. [Read more](#)

University of Arkansas - Fort Smith

Two University of Arkansas - Fort Smith Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) cadets -- Leonardo Padilla and Samuel Mosley -- earned top marks at the Leader Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington. [Read more](#)

University of Central Florida

- UCF English professor Pat Rushin calls himself an "overgrown student," but to those in the film industry he's better known as the writer behind the Venice Film Festival entry, "The Zero

Theorem." [Read more](#)

- Florida could be called the sinkhole capital of the nation with more than 6,600 identified craters, but predicting where one will form remains a mystery. [Read more](#)
- Jamie Holzworth went from serving guests at some of Central Florida's fanciest hotels and restaurants to helping the region's most critically ill as a student nurse working the night shift in the intensive-care unit. [Read more](#)

University of North Georgia

About one-third of all college seniors have transferred to another school at some point during their college career, and the leader of the National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students (NISTS) said this is the "new normal" for many students. Dr. Janet Marling, executive director of NISTS, which is based at the University of North Georgia, just completed a new volume for the New Directions for Higher Education series that highlights the need for more study on this issue.

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