



THE STING

March 2012

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 65, Issue 2

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**ARCH 4th year studio and
ETCMA students team up to compete in**

SPSU Design Challenge



1st place team

Chad Reineke (ARCH), Julian Quinn (ARCH), Addison Wilson (ETCMA), Ruo Ma (ETCMA), and Gay Stahr (ETCMA)

On your mark, get set, go! Competing for cash prizes and bragging rights, the architecture students from Dr. Saleh Uddin's 4th year studio class collaborated with Leslie Hankey's applied graphics class in a seven day design competition. Having a foundation in design, the architecture students combined their valuable design skills with the strong communication skills of students in the English, Technical Communication and Media Arts department, all in the hopes of producing a winning design for the renovation of the Mathematics Building.

Students met for the first time on March 12th and hit the ground running. Conflicting class schedules, work, and family responsibilities didn't hold back the groups from tackling their presentations for the March 19th competition. The teams met in studio, online, and through constant communication.

Over the seven day period each team evaluated the design challenges of the dank and dreary Building D which houses the Mathematics department.

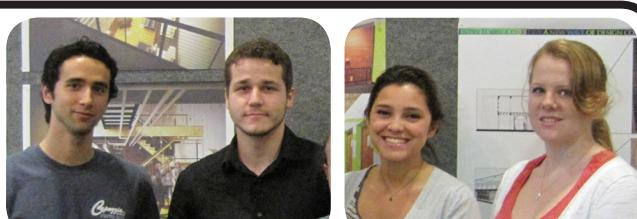
The teams were challenged to present design concepts on presentation boards and promotional posters to the jury on March 19th. The proposed scope and budget would include designing and renovation to the D building corridor for \$100,000 or less.

Dean Nelson launched the collaborative design contest that represented the best of both fields. Architecture students and ETCMA students were paired into eight teams. All of the posters will be presented at the 2012 Polytechnic Summit this summer.

The winners of the competition split \$1,000 in prize money and walked away with the bragging rights to what is hoped to be a permanent mark on the SPSU campus.

2nd place team

Quetzalcoatl Sierra
Haki Atalov
Vanessa Boras-Patino
Jennifer Arthur



SPSU students make international connections

Through the SPSU Foundation's support, students had the opportunity to hear from Dr. Chacha, with the Center of International Trade and Security.

The Center's (CITS) research has provided the information and strategies for countries to agree upon safe trade and legal mechanisms that support world security. Supporting nuclear non-proliferation, the research encourages effective lawmaking and physical procedures that develop strategic trade controls and have reached beyond our borders.

According to The Center (CITS), they carry out their mission by engaging and informing policymakers, industry representatives, educators, students, and the general public, both in the United States and abroad, about the dangers of trade in and theft of weapons and weapons components.

The Center promotes peace and prosperity through programs that focus on the protection of nuclear material, prevention of nuclear trafficking and denuclearization, as well as the mitigation of threats posed by trade in technologies and materials that underly weapons of mass destruction.

The Center (CITS) has intern opportunities for students. The University of Georgia's School of Public and International Affairs routinely perform research to help countries understand the best ways and practices to comply with United Nations guidelines with regard to the trade and handling of weapons and weapon components. This research helps to communicate and motivate countries to seek practices that keep the UN happy, allows for economic development and provides for technology assurances in production. Visit <http://cits.uga.edu/> to learn about internship opportunities and latest developments.



Photo by
Vanessa Boras-Patino

United Nations Under-Secretary General meets with students

Photo by Vanessa Boras-Patino



TCOM student, Ernest Endsley meets
UN Under-Secretary General, Cheick Sidi Diarra

Students and faculty met with Ambassador Cheick Sidi Diarra, the United Nations Under-Secretary General, Special Advisor on Africa and High Representative for Least-developed Countries. Ambassador Diarra visited SPSU on Monday, February 27, 2012 to talk to students about the economic opportunities in Africa in the student center auditorium. Ambassador Diarra commemorated his visit to SPSU and the "Celebrate Africa - Journey through the ages exhibition" with a ribbon cutting, planting a tree, and attending a reception given in his honor. This was a rare opportunity to meet such an important and distinguished visitor.



Photo by Vicki Nix

The Sting editorial staff

Spring 2012

Editorial**Lead, follow, or get out of the way?****By Vicki Nix**

As a non-traditional student, I have the advantage of having a few miles behind me. My career is at the intersection of yesterday and tomorrow with a renewed understanding of what it means to be a good leader. Moving from "understanding to being" is a journey best made "borrowing" from examples around me.

What seems like a lifetime ago, I worked at a little bank in Sandy Springs that grew up to be an attractive acquisition for Regions Bank. A dozen or so folks raised a little capital from a few friends and launched a bank. I was fortunate enough to land happily among these great minds and warm hearts. I'd always heard how the success of an organization is only a reflection of the leadership at the top. Metro Bank was no exception. This little bank had a customer-base of loyal customers who enjoyed and appreciated good customer service. It was expected that the employees would know their customers - but it was amazing how well the customers got to know the employees.

The president of the bank, Ray Fisher, is one of the warmest people I know. Unlike many bank presidents, Ray's office was only six steps from the front entry of the bank and his door was always open. He was a second generation banker and managed with a peaceful strength.

His strength and professional habits didn't mean we worked in a stuffy banker setting. We worked in a professional environment where customers were treated with appreciation and respect. I was reminded of his peace, strength and hilarious humor when I stumble on an old file in storage. This file contained a kind note of appreciation from him after I resigned to move closer family, old annual reports and photos from some of the company picnics and parties. Our company parties were like family reunions. The games and skits were legendary. I had forgotten how much we were like family. Encouraging his staff was a part of his everyday life and we learned to encourage each other.

Building the team at *The Sting* is much like calling a family reunion. Everyone is busy with school, work and their own families, but we come together to accomplish the production of a paper we are proud to call *The Sting*. I am reminded that no matter which road I take from here, the road to a successful career and happy life starts with me. My ability to lead will come from how I treat others - not from worrying about who's in front. And, we'll have fun along this journey!

Social media fuels mass awareness – KONY 2012**By Christopher Harris**

"Nothing is more powerful than an idea..." is the first thing you see when watching the recent viral video titled Kony 2012. This thirty-minute movie by the organization Invisible Children (IC) was published on March 5th 2012, and went viral on YouTube within just a few days.

The Invisible Children (IC) Organization clearly put time into the short film expressing full -- emotion, ranging from tears of sadness to tears of happiness. Showing their support and asking people to get involved, clips of politicians and actors have created momentum behind the short film message and its delivery.

This admirable movement uses phrases such as "...where you live shouldn't determine whether you live" in the promotional video and that their plan of action is to "...make Joseph Kony a household name in a way not to celebrate him, but to bring his crimes to the light." IC has listed twenty culture icons and twelve policy makers to be contacted in a grass roots fashion to propel the movement to educate them of Kony and his crimes so that he can be brought to justice. Promoting something called "Cover the Night."

The IC is encouraging citizens across the world to post fliers, stickers, banners, and a number of other signs with the common phrase "Kony 2012," which bear striking resemblance to presidential campaign signs, possibly on purpose, in order for the movement to gain popularity. According to the video, the United States Government has sent over military advisers to help train Ugandan leaders on how to catch Kony.

The IC's promotion of the Kony 2012 movement isn't the start of an action, but it is supposed to keep the action going until the war criminal is brought to justice. Recent events surrounding the narrator, Jason Russell has distracted from the main message. Russell who was sent off to a medical facility after public nudity may have given a moment of skepticism to many, but the movement is still going forward.

Some have leveled criticisms against IC and the Kony 2012 movement, saying that the video contains falsehoods. Some say Kony has been inactive in Uganda for five years and at one point in the video it is claimed that Kony is "not fighting for any cause, but only to maintain his power."

These contradictions to the second in command of the Lord's Resistance Army's (LRA, Kony's organization), Vincent Otti, when he said: "And people always ask us, are we fighting for the [biblical] Ten Commandments of God. That is true - because the Ten Commandments of God is the constitution that God has given to the people of the world." Joseph Kony was, explicitly, a Christian terrorist. Citizens of Uganda have made this criticism, claiming that it is bringing negative attention to their country.

Is the misinformation justified if the movement brings attention to Kony and eventually leads to his arrest? Many think, not. It is undeniably a noble attempt, but using the emotion of a social media arena might through dishonesty is a slippery slope and has the potential to back fire and harm a movement. The old saying, "The path to Hell is paved with good intentions."

Regardless of whether he is currently as much of a threat as he used to be, Kony still committed the crimes IC accused him of, and time does not make a crime

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Contact 678-915-7310 or sting@spsu.edu to advertise or for other information.

April 23, 2012 edition articles are due

Monday, April 9, 2012

The Sting logo contest:

More details about The Sting logo concept contest can be found at www.spsu.edu/thesting

Deadline for submissions: April 19th

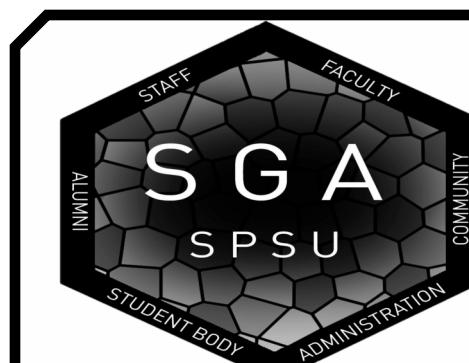
Contest winner will work with a professional marketing firm to finalize *The Sting's* new look!

less evil, only less remembered. The criticism that America is not directly in danger, so we shouldn't be involved is the type of thinking that is detrimental to society.

Location shouldn't be the barometer to our emotion and level of concern when something is wrong. It's not just the people who have the ability to do something that have the moral obligation to do so, it is up to all concerned to highlight the injustices and be the catalyst for change. IC is not asking for the U. S. to send over thousands of troops to fight in guerrilla warfare, they are asking that we educate, train, and empower Ugandan citizens so they can help themselves. If justice is something that America stands for, there is no reason to think that justice is only geographical.

The conflicting facts and misinformation portrayed on the video and Russell's recent legal troubles shouldn't detour the movement and become a red herring - but be the beacon injustices at the hand of KONY. Bigger than the errors of IC or people involved with IC, the Kony 2012 movement shows that people still care about justice.

What's to stop citizens of super powers such as the U. S. from becoming concerned with other war criminals or events of injustice? Hopefully, nothing will. Sometimes, ethics are more important than politics.

**FREE**

Discount cards are available for discounts at local restaurants and stores near the SPSU campus!

See an SGA officer to receive your card!

Engineers Week at SPSU

By Robert Barnard

From February 19th to 25th, SPSU celebrated Engineer's week and the theme was "Turning Ideas into Reality". Professionals from Southern Company, and Lockheed Martin visited the university and the week culminated at the E - week luncheon on February 23rd. Before the luncheon student organizations showcased their creations in the student center lobby area. Some of the organizations represented were SPSU Motorsports formula SAE car, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, SPSU Steel Bridge Team, SPSU concrete canoe team and the winners of the future city competition.

The luncheon began with the invocation provided by Professor Lance Crimm. Next the guests were welcomed by SPSU President Rossbacher. She mentioned that "employers are the measure of the success at the university." The students of the year for engineering and engineering technology were recognized. The student-of-the-year for engineering technology is Chris Cutter majoring in MET. The student-of-the-year for engineering is Garrett Bailey majoring in Mechatronics.

The future city winners were the next to get recognition. The 3rd place Regional winner was Johns Creek home school team. They also won the best power generation system and most innovative design. Their creation of a future city as well as their explanation of it was very impressive.

Stanton Stafford ,Senior Associate and the Director of Energy and Sustainability Services for Newcomb & Boyd, was the keynote speaker of the luncheon. He discussed sustainable architecture, engineering and construction providing opportunities for the next generation. The advice Mr. Stafford gave to students was to get a professional license, master your discipline, understand the roles of team members, learn the business and get involved. He also mentioned that students need to have a well-defined idea and get work experience in their field from either a co-op or internship. It was a great week for engineers and engineering students.

Quotable Quotes

By Sana Yasmineen

"I am easily satisfied with the very best."

-Winston Churchill (British Orator, author, and Prime Minister during World War II)

"You can't just turn on creativity like a faucet. You have to be in the right mood." "What mood is that?" "Last-minute panic."

-Calvin & Hobbes (Fictional characters from the comic series created by Bill Watterson)

"Excellence is not a singular act, but a habit. You are what you repeatedly do."

-Shaquille O'Neal (Former American professional basketball player)

"The best way to waste your life... is by taking notes. The easiest way to avoid living is to just watch. Look for the details. Report. Don't participate."

-Chuck Palahniuk (American freelance journalist, novelist, and author of Fight Club)

"Anyone who trades liberty for security deserves neither liberty nor security."

-Benjamin Franklin (American statesman, scientist, philosopher, writer, and inventor)

"Death does not concern us, because as long as we exist, death is not here. And when it does come, we no longer exist."

-Epicurus (Greek philosopher, BC 341-270)

"What is a cynic? A man who knows the price of everything and the value of nothing."

-Oscar Wilde (Irish poet, novelist, dramatist and critic, 1854-1900)

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, the education, the money, than circumstances, than failure, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% of how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our Attitudes."

- Charles R. Swindoll (American writer and clergyman)

Chinese New Year -Continued from page 6

Everybody will dress up after waking up on New Year's Day, and families will gather together for a big feast. People often talk about their studies and work during the past year and express wishes for the coming new year. Watching the Spring Festival Gala held by China Central Television has become an essential entertainment after supper. Around 11 p.m. people will go outside to set off fireworks and firecrackers. People believe that the noise of the fireworks make will drive away the evil spirits. In the southern parts of China, people will watch the Lion Dance Parade. People will return and eat dumplings around midnight. Young people will bow to their elders to show respect. It is a tradition to welcome the New Year by greeting each other in the family and wish everyone prosperity. They often say, "Gong Xi Fa Cai," which means "Wish you prosperity" and "Xin Chun Kuai Le," which means "I wish you have happiness in the coming spring." The elders often prepare red envelopes as gifts for the younger generation. This is the most exciting part for the children. The red envelopes contain money in different amounts. All numbers are acceptable except numbers like 400 or 4,000. The number 'four' has a similar pronunciation to the word 'death' in Chinese.

Family members visit friends and extended family members on the third day of the New Year, bringing them gifts such as fruits, wine, cigarettes, and drinks.

On the 15th day of the New Year is the new moon. It is the final day of the Spring Festival and is the Lantern Festival. People often celebrate the festival watching lantern displays and solving riddles on lanterns. People will also eat the traditional Chinese food "Yuanxiao" which means "get- together" on that day. "Yuanxiao" is a traditional Chinese food. Its wrapper is made of glutinous flour and the stuffing contains nut together with sugar. (Yuanxiao)

Changes in the Celebration

As time passes by, more and more people decide to celebrate their New Year's Eve at a big tavern

instead of staying at home. They think preparing for the New Year is too much work. They may find housekeeping personnel to clean their house and order one or two tables' food from outside. Many people think it is the get-together that matters, not the place where to meet.

As people's life is getting better many families decide to use the New Year's holiday to have a short trip. Travelling has become a new way of celebrating the New Year Festival. According to the tour.xbus.cn, "Many customers has already order the New Year's Eve's meal three months ago, and Spring Festival has becoming a busy time for all restaurants and taverns." ("Spring Festival has become a busy time for taverns")

Nowadays, setting off firecrackers is completely or partially forbidden in big cities. "However, such an activity was completely or partially forbidden in big cities once the government took security, noise and pollution factors into consideration. As a replacement, some buy tapes with firecracker sounds to listen to, some break little balloons to get the sound too, while others buy firecracker handicrafts to hang in the living room." ("Spring Festival")

The Chinese New Year Transportation

Chinese New Year is a time for the family reunion. People living away from home will go back home becoming the busiest time for transportation systems. During this period, China will face extremely high traffic. This traffic condition is called "Chunyun," which mean "The Chinese New Year Transportation or Spring Festival Transportation." Spring Festival Transportation usually starts from 15 days before the Chinese New Year and ends 40 days later. In this period, travelers should double check the traffic situation and book the tickets they need as soon as they can. In 2010 Chinese New Year, "Railway officials estimate that a total of 210 million people will be transported by train during the 40 days, 9.5 % higher compared with that of last year's. On average, 5.25 million people will be transported one day. They also give clues that rail travelers in

Guangzhou and Chengdu will probably have to buy railway tickets using their ID cards or passports, and get their real names registered on the tickets, which has not got governmental final confirmation yet" ("China Travel News").

There are some transportation problems caused by the Spring Festival. There are some people who don't get the relevant tickets and won't be able to return home. Large numbers of moving people can create a burden on the transportation system and also lead to some safety problems. In some places, traffic ties up because too many people rush to the train station and bus station. Theft, robbery and fraud happen all the time during transportation. Conflicts between passengers occur when waiting in line. There are illegal scalpers who sell tickets at a price much higher than the normal ones.

Some solutions are pointed out by some professionals. "Experts believe that to solve the problem of peak travel, China should speed up economic growth and narrow the gap between different regions so as to gradually diminish the large-scale movement of labor forces. At the same time, China should reform its household registration system which divides residents into two categories-- rural and urban-- according to where they live. The system enables urban people to benefit more from employment, housing, food, medical care, pensions and public facilities. Experts also suggest that migrant workers should be paid more so they (can) become part of the cities where they work" ("sina English").

The Chinese New Year is a special time for those who live hundreds or thousands of miles away from home, because they can have family reunions and friends' get-together. The Chinese New Year fills the atmosphere with joy, happiness, and peace. It is the most important celebration for Chinese people. This traditional festival is a time for people to memorize the old and welcome the future. People are often inspired and refreshed with the coming of a new spring. If you are lucky enough to be invited to a Chinese New Year celebration don't hesitate to participate in the biggest feast in the year. You will have an unforgettable experience.

**I don't know you. You don't know me.
However, we still represent each other.**

By: Zach Messmore

I don't know you. You don't know me. However, we still represent each other. One of many memorable aspects of Greek life is the semester of pledging that all Greeks go through. As one of the most notable experiences in my life, I would like to share with you one of the important things I learned during this time: "You are always wearing your letters."

Wearing your letters? Now, non-Greeks are wondering what in the world I am talking about and Greeks may or may not understand this statement. Let me begin by clarifying that in this case 'letters' are further defined as the specific Greek characters that symbolize the full names of fraternities and sororities, and to some these letters are just as important as their own last name. Now you ask, "How am I – someone that has never had anything to do with a Greek organization – wearing letters?" For Greeks as well as non-Greeks, your letters are figurative for something bigger than yourself that you represent. No, you may not be part of a fraternity, – there is absolutely nothing wrong with that –but you may be part of another student organization. If not part of any student organization, you are still a student of this institution. What I am getting at is the fact that there is always a group of individuals that you represent. For members of fraternities and sororities how we act defines what others think of the entire group. For Southern Polytechnic State University, the actions of the student body define what employers think of our school as a whole. You can see this as the classic saying, "A group is only as strong as its weakest link."

To students of all types who belong to many different groups on this campus, I give you this information: in some way every action I make as a student reflects on you, and your actions reflect on me. Every day that you come to campus you represent Southern Polytechnic State University, and your actions during your time here replicate on every other student, faculty and staff member at this school. If you belong to any organization on campus, every move you make reflects back to the group of people you belong to.

Finally, what you do with your time here reflects back on you. Knowing this, what are you going to do with your time? Will you do just enough to graduate and get an okay job, or will you go the extra mile to represent yourself, your classmates and your school well?

- I would like to thank my brother, Kash Hatami, for teaching me this and inspiring me to represent myself as well as others in a positive way.

Science Olympiad inspires next generation

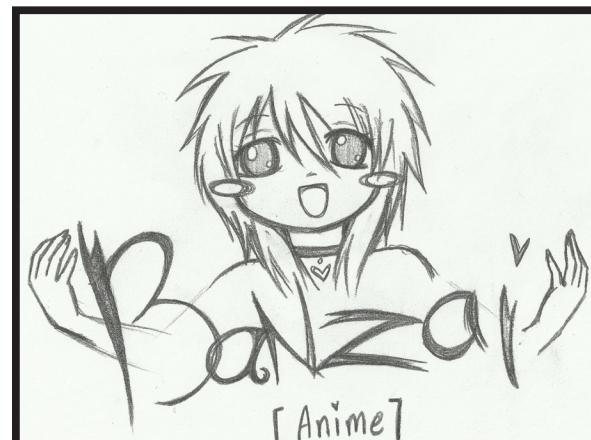
By Robert Barnard

SPSU hosted the regional Science Olympiad on February 25th 2012. Metro Atlanta High Schools descended on SPSU to show off their scientific abilities in many different fields. The teams are comprised of high school students from all grades but no more than 7 12th graders are allowed on each team. There are quite a few events in which the students compete. Some of the events include: towers, thermodynamics, helicopters, robot arm, and sound of music just to name a few.

Growing up some of the non-traditional SPSU students were inspired to science by the Space Shuttle program and the exploration of space. Today it is a great thing to have the Science Olympiad to help inspire the current and future students at SPSU.

The Science Olympiad not only allows the high school students to showcase their talents. It gives them the opportunity to explore and get a feel for the environment at SPSU.

The next Science Olympiad will be held at SPSU for middle school students on March 24th 2012. This a great opportunity to get involved with the campus and learn more about what the Science Olympiad is all about.



Banzai Anime Club

Meets every Friday

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Student Center A-215

email: ba@spsu.edu

**Saturday, April 7th 10am-2pm
Live Action Pacman Event**

FREE!

All are welcome!

**SPSU Speech Team
Earns state Honors**

Earning statewide honors for their performances in public speaking and dramatic reading, members of the Southern Polytechnic State University Speech Team represented the students of SPSU well.

Participating in the Georgia Intercollegiate Forensic Association's annual State Championship Tournament, team members earned top honors in two events. Senior technical communication major Toby Pope won first place in Program Oral Interpretation, and The Job, the team's first-ever Readers Theater entry, also earned first place.

Speech team coordinator Misty York called the weekend SPSU's best showing ever at the state tournament.

"Our students have put in a tremendous amount of time and effort to reach this level of competition," she said. "As a coach, it's my privilege to work with a program so full of potential."

SPSU placed 3rd overall, only two points behind 2nd place team Gainesville State College. Berry College won the team championship for the 6th consecutive year. Congratulations to the Speech team!

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The Sting
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Organizations

Full Results

Readers' Theater

1st place, SPSU

Editorial Impromptu

4th place, Tyler Maran

**Program Oral
Interpretation**

1st place,

Toby Pope

(Senior,-

Technical Communication)

Informative Speaking

2nd place,

Anthony Stallworth

(Junior,

Industrial Engineering

Technology)

After Dinner Speaking

3rd place,

Kyle Wood

(Freshman,

Mechatronics Engineering

Rhetorical Criticism

4th place,

Darius Broden

(Senior, Industrial

Engineering Technology)

Persuasive Speaking

4th place,

Kinga Gruszecka

(Junior,

English & Professional

Communication)

Individual Sweeps

(Top speaker award)

5th place,

Tyler Maran

Team Sweeps

3rd place, SPSU



The SPSU Speech Team will be presenting "Cops & Zombies!" Thursday, April 12th at 9:00 p.m. This hour-long program will include performances that have been representing SPSU throughout the year. Admission is \$1 and all proceeds will go toward their travel to the National Forensic Association national championship tournament.

Cops & Zombies! Contains strong language

Next issue: Meet Mr. Lau



Mr. Ignacio Lau of Argentina is here by way of the first Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) grant that the Fulbright program has made to SPSU and Georgia Highland College. The two schools jointly host Mr. Lau in the Department of Social and International Studies for the 2011-2012 academic year.

The Fulbright program is one of the most prestigious, flagship sponsored by the U. S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of United States and other countries. The program provides participants-chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential-with the opportunity to study teach and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Separation of Church and Freedom

By Christopher Harris

Among the recent political debates and public statements, it has become obvious that there is a conflict regarding contraception. The debate of how federal funds should be spent seems to be divided. Among conservatives, it is claimed that Obama's healthcare law forces religious institutions to violate their moral and ethical beliefs and provide women with free contraceptives. Among liberals, however, it is claimed that GOP policies are taking away women's rights. Unfortunately, the talking heads from either side will not tell you how intricate the whole situation is. Before any reasonable discourse can occur on the subject of the government mandating health care providers to give women contraception, we must first take a look at some of the recent bills that our Government has been looking.

In Georgia, House Bill 954 says that a woman cannot have an abortion after twenty weeks unless the mother's life is at risk. As opponents to the bill have pointed out, the law forces women to carry stillborn children: "No abortion is authorized or shall be performed if the... age of the unborn child has been determined... to be 20 weeks or more unless... the abortion is necessary to avert the death of the pregnant woman or avert serious risk of substantial and irreversible physical impairment... No such condition shall be deemed to exist if it is based on a diagnosis or claim of a mental or emotional condition of the pregnant woman..." with an unborn child being defined as "a member of the species homo sapiens from fertilization until birth." So forget how traumatic it is, because that has no bearing on the law.

Another Georgia bill, Senate Bill 438, says that state employees' health insurance cannot help pay for abortions: "No health insurance plan shall offer coverage for abortions..."

More specifically to contraception, the state of Arizona, in House Bill 2625, removed the protection for employees taking contraceptives. (It originally stated: "A religious employer shall not discriminate against an employee who independently chooses to obtain insurance coverage or prescriptions for contraceptives from another source." [Chris: emphasis mine] The most recent version of this bill has crossed this out.) So not only can religious employers refuse to pay for contraceptives, they can fire people for using them, regardless of where the employee got the contraceptives. This is not talking about a religious institution, but simply a religious employer.

Is it a "war on women" to tell a secular employer they don't have to pay for contraception and can even fire their employees for using contraceptives because they think it is wrong? I would certainly think so.

Is it a "war on religion" to think that a secular company should have to pay for contraceptives via health insurance, or should not be able to fire someone for using contraceptives they got from somewhere else? Absolutely not, I think. What about explicitly religious institutions, such as churches or Catholic hospitals? Should these religious institutions have to provide contraceptives as a part of their healthcare plan? Should these religious institutions be able to discriminate against employees who use contraceptives? According to my understanding of the current law, the answer is "depends".

Do I think this is a "war on religion"? No. The current law is not specifically about religious institutions, nor does it specifically single out religious institutions. Nor does the law apply to churches, but, as far as religion goes, only to religious institutions, such as hospitals and schools that serve many non-Catholics and, most importantly, receive federal funding.

It is not a violation of the separation of church and state to require federal funding to be used a certain way. If a religious institution does not want to agree, then they shouldn't take federal funding.

As the philosopher Russell Blackford points out, allowing these religious institutions to opt out is not freedom of religion: "If anything, it is contrary to freedom of religion if some people (or corporations or whatever) are exempted from a law because of religious sensitivities. That is not religious freedom; it is religious privilege. It is giving the religious people (etc.) a privilege that the rest of society does not have, as, after all, we are talking about a law of general application." There is no violation of religious freedom in making a religious hospital or church follow a neutral law.

Since there is no violation of religious freedom, the question must then be asked, Should the federal government require that contraceptives be covered under insurance at all? Because the government's purpose is supposed to be the good of the people, it is in the government's interest to do so.

Under the assumption that the government should provide preventive care, the question then becomes whether

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Apathy and ignorance vs. Trash and treasure

By Toby Pope

You know, I'm starting to think that in addition to being apathetic and more than a little lazy, Americans can't read. At least, I hope that's what's going on. Anything else and it's crazy.

Why do I say that? Well consider this. Almost every time that I look at the trash bins here at SPSU, I see plastic bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard thrown away. And the correct place to put it was literally just a few feet away.

If no one can read the signs that clearly say "plastic", then I could understand that. Because, hey! English isn't everyone's first language here on campus. And that's fine, but, if this is from people being too lazy to take two more seconds to lift a lid, that is ridiculous.

Even the people that throw away plastic or cans in the classrooms, I just have one question for you: Why? Is it that hard to drop it off in the correctly marked receptacle as you go back downstairs? Is it that hard to take it with you for just a few moments longer?

I don't understand this generation. I don't understand this culture. I don't understand the people that are around me.

Did you know that in Nigeria, they made a house out of plastic bottles and compacted sand? According to a recent article published by the BBC, the benefits were impressive. Not only was it cooler in the day, as the sand helps shield the oppressive sun's rays, but it's actually more durable than concrete and bulletproof. (And yes, you read that right. Bulletproof!) What could be the only potential problem with this? Apparently in Nigeria there is already a slight shortage of plastic bottles as people love how useful they are. And sand. There isn't enough sand.

Let me break it down for you. Here in America, we can't motivate our feeble little arms long enough to hold an object that is a fraction of a pound in order to put it in the recycling container. In Nigeria, the poor have come up with a way to utilize this unwanted trash in such an efficient way that there is a shortage.

America, I am disappointed.

What I think it means to be a Liberal

By Christopher Harris

If anyone has watched the national news for even a short period of time, then they have undoubtedly heard about the presidential election which will occur later this year. While the GOP have been in the spotlight because of the debates, the media seems to be focusing more on what each of the candidates are saying about each other, and not about the ideas they represent. Of course, each person's difference in values and ideas makes them unique. Our country arguably needs a variety of ideas. Surely, though, some political ideas are better than others.

For example, I see no way that it could be argued that totalitarianism could promote the happiness and well-being of citizens, and this is what we observe. If some political philosophies are worse for people, then there must be political philosophies that are better, and if we are to be good citizens, then we should figure out what these better philosophies are. It has been argued and demonstrated, that when given freedom, people are happier, and the quality of life increases.

This is something that every American experiences, but for some reason there seems to be a sort of cognitive dissonance for some of my fellow citizens when it comes to this freedom. It is constantly championed that America is the "land of the free," yet among my fellow southerners, "liberal" is held to be one of the most disgraceful labels to have. This seems odd to me. "Liberal," in both philosophy and politics, is the idea of freedom. It is the idea that every citizen should be represented fairly, which is a necessity for democracy, or that every citizen should be given equal rights, which is something that everyone wants but is not willing to give, or that every citizen can believe whatever they want and speak their mind, which is the only thing that will allow us to progress.

People seem to have forgotten that liberal philosophies have given us the core concepts of America. They are the philosophies of John Locke and David Hume, and the policies and writings of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison. These men, especially the latter two, are held up as icons of this country, yet it seems that no one actually wants to listen to them. Why is it that we can praise the founders of this country, and then ignore the values that they stood upon? This is not limited to one political party; people are guilty in the Democratic and Republican parties. It is not the liberal idea to take away everyone's guns, or to strip people's religious freedoms. People seem to think that being a liberal means you want no one to own a gun, or that religion should be persecuted in government places. With the proper understanding of liberal philosophies, I see that there is nothing to object to.

If people want a striving, successful economically; if they want a society that flourishes, then the liberal ideas must be followed. This is not an endorsement for any candidate. This is one citizen asking everyone to adapt to the liberal philosophies which made, and will continue to make, this country great.

America's civil liberties are under attack!

By Robert Barnard

Early in the month of February it became apparent that the new health care law had once again overstepped its constitutional bounds. This occurred when it was revealed that one provision in the new law required that all religious hospitals and even companies owned by private citizens must provide health coverage to employees. To go one step further it states that the coverage must include contraception which in the teachings of the Catholic Church is against its beliefs.

The government has turned the debate into one of providing contraception, when clearly it is not. The actual argument by the Catholic Church is one of religious freedom which is one of the fundamental civil liberties guaranteed in the first amendment of the U.S. Constitution. The debate on going in congress is that contraception should be provided. The misunderstanding is that U.S. citizens are guaranteed the right to freedom of religion, and the right to practice that religion as we see fit. There should be absolutely no interference from the government on this civil liberty! We all know that civil liberties are protections from the government. If we allow this to continue where will it eventually end?

The freedom of religion is so paramount in this current issue revealed in the current health care law that many other religions have banded together with the Catholic Church. They are also arguing that it is not an issue of contraception but rather an attack on the freedom of religion. Although the current presidential administration has given slight concession of one year to the Catholic Church that is not enough. The freedoms guaranteed in the very document that is the foundation of our government must not be impeded upon. Freedom of religion must be protected!

SPSU - Culture Exchanged

Chinese New Year

By Xingze Dong

The Chinese New Year, also known as Spring Festival or Lunar New Year, is the most important festival in China. The festival begins on the first day of the first Chinese lunar month and ends 15 days later in the traditional Lantern Festival. Among the 15 days, the most important are the New Year's Eve and the three days that follows. Like Christmas, the Chinese New Year is a time full of optimism and joy. The lively atmosphere of New Year not only fills every home, but also pervades the streets and lanes. Chinese New Year is now celebrated throughout the world. It is an official festival in China. Though many countries don't celebrate the Chinese New Year as an official festival, grand celebrations can be seen in the Chinatowns of most big cities and amongst Chinese immigrants all around the world during the festival season.

The legends of the twelve zodiacs

The Chinese government started to use the International Calendar, which is used by most countries of the world, on the founding of the Republic of China in 1912. The Chinese lunar calendar has been used for centuries. There are 12 animals that symbolize each of the 12 years, and they are called the Chinese Zodiac. The twelve Chinese Zodiacs are mouse, cow, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, chicken, dog and pig. The 2012 Chinese New Year will begin on Monday, January 23rd. It will be the year of the dragon in the Chinese lunar calendar. There are many myths that related to the twelve Chinese Zodiacs. Here's the most interesting one: In ancient times, the Yellow Emperor Xuanyuan wanted to pick twelve animals to be his guards. All animals then had a race to decide who would be the guards. Finally, the ranks came out, and the first twelve were mouse, cow, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, monkey, chicken, dog and pig. Each of them would look after human society for a year, and made twelve years a circulation. That's how Chinese Zodiacs originated. The year of your birth denotes your association with a specific zodiac symbol. Take 1990 as an example. I was born that year, and it was the year of the horse.

The Story of Nian

There is a myth about the origin of "nian" (which means "year or new year"). In old times, our ancestors all lived in villages. Everybody will dress up after waking up on New Year's Day, and families will gather together for a big feast. People often talk about their studies and work during the past year and express wishes for the coming new year. Watching the Spring Festival Gala held by China Central Television has become an essential entertainment after supper. Around 11 p.m. people will go outside to set off fireworks and firecrackers. People believe that the noise of the fireworks make will drive away the evil spirits. In the southern parts of China, people will watch the Lion Dance Parade. People will return and eat dumplings around midnight. Young people will bow to their elders to show respect. It is a tradition to welcome the New Year by greeting each other in the family and wish everyone prosperity. They often say, "Gong Xi Fa Cai," which means "Wish you prosperity" and "Xin Chun Kuai Le," which means "I wish you have happiness in the coming spring." The elders often prepare red envelopes as gifts for the younger generation. This is the most exciting part for the children. The red envelopes contain money in different amounts. All numbers are acceptable except numbers like 400 or 4,000. The number 'four' has a similar pronunciation to the word 'death' in Chinese.

Family members visit friends and extended family members on the third day of the New Year, bringing them gifts such as fruits, wine, cigarettes, and drinks.

On the 15th day of the New Year is the new moon. It is the final day of the Spring Festival and is the Lantern Festival. People often celebrate the festival watching lantern displays and solving riddles on lanterns. People will also eat the traditional Chinese food "Yuanxiao" which means "get- together" on that day. "Yuanxiao" is a traditional Chinese food. Its wrapper is made of glutinous flour and the stuffing contains nut together with sugar.

Here they raised livestock, like, sheep, cow, chicken, and rats. However, they were threatened by a beast called "Nian" on every New Year's Eve. "Nian" would often intrude into the village and eat livestock and people on that day.



This is a Chinese traditional couplet



Chinese food "Yuanxiao"

After years of fighting, people found that Nian was afraid of three things: the color red, fire and sound. Thus, people would post red couplets (which I will explain later), set off firecrackers, and light a pile of fire in front of the gate. Then, "Nian" was threatened away. After the night was over, people would celebrate and congratulate each other's safety. "Generation after generation, the day of Spring Festival came into being." ("Spring Festival")

Customs and Traditions

Customs and Traditions for the Chinese New Year are nearly the same from region to region in China. There are some common practices during the celebration.

Before the New Year arrives, people go out to buy the necessities for the festival. People will purchase not only oil, rice, flour, pork, chicken, fish, but fruits, candies, drinks, wine and different kinds of nuts. Children often go with their parents and select some new clothes and gifts. Elders often buy new bedclothes and the eating and cooking utensils.

Normally, families clean their houses thoroughly before the starting of New Year. They hope to sweep away all the bad luck in the room and welcome a prosperous new year. Cleaning the dirt in the house also represent to let the old atmosphere go and make room for the new because the pronunciations for the word "dirt" and the word "old" are nearly the same.

The entrances to homes, business and buildings are often ornamented with red paper banners which have Chinese calligraphy on them. The calligraphy is written with Chinese traditional writing brush with black or golden ink. These banners are displayed on the sides and the top of the entrance. Traditionally, the themes of the calligraphy will be "happiness", "long life", "good luck", "wealth" and "health". The Chinese character "fu" (means happiness) is also needed. The character is written with writing brush on a square red paper but is much bigger than the ones on the banner. The paper is posted upside down so that the "fu" is in a reverse order. The "reversed fu" pronounce the same with "fu arrives" which means happiness arrives.

Continued on page 11

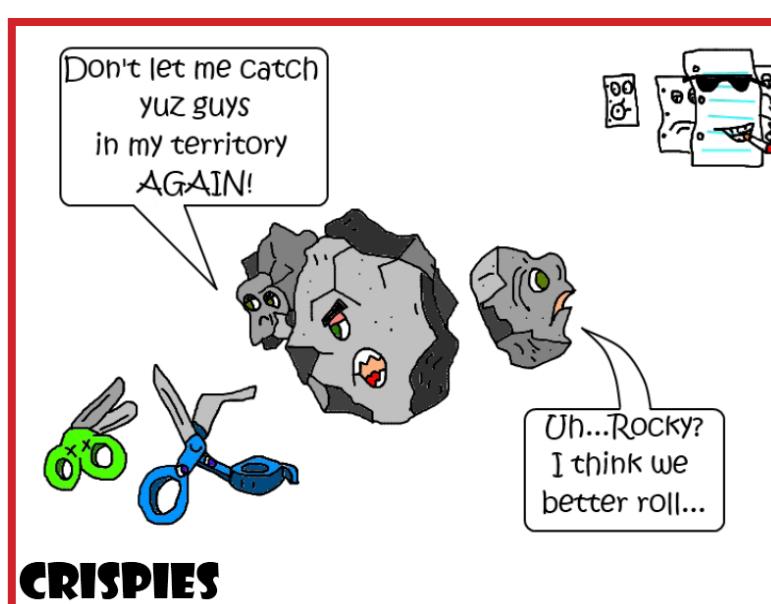
A cultural experience out of the shade
By Yingdongjin Fang

Studying abroad is a decision that I will never regret. Being in America for more than half a year now, I have experienced some interesting cultural differences. I remember arriving in Atlanta back in August, a hot day. I felt the heat of the sun on my face when I stepped out of the airport. I was surprised as I looked at the people around me and saw that nobody had an umbrella in their hand on such a hot day. I thought to myself, "Are they not afraid of getting tanned or sun-burned by the sun?" I now know that the people here are used to the sun and the hot weather here. Furthermore, if someone is seen using an umbrella, that person would easily be recognized as a foreigner. I learned that tanned skin is appreciated as a value of beauty.

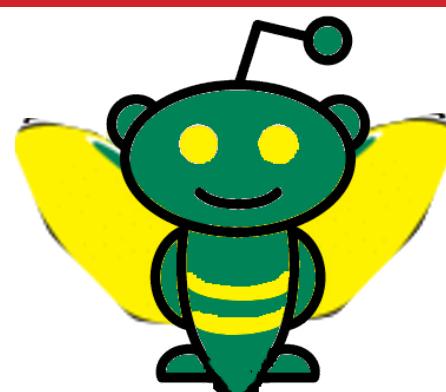
As I was sitting in the car driving to campus, I observed that there were almost no people walking on the streets. A lot of private cars were driving fast on the road and seldom did I see public transportation like a bus. Transportation is one of the biggest differences so it has caused a lot of inconvenience to my life here compared to my hometown, Beijing, where public buses and subways are the main means of transportation. I'm pretty sure that almost every Chinese student that has come to study in America has had the experience of having to walk to Wal-mart to buy groceries due to lack of public transportation.

The thing that left a deep impression on me was the hospitality of the local people. I remember one time when my friend and I were touring on campus, people I met were smiling at me, and some of them would even say, "Hi, how are you doing?" to me. I felt quite nervous at the beginning because I didn't understand why they greeted me. In China, if someone sees other people saying hello to each other in most cases it's that they are friends or acquaintances, but in America, I realized that smiling to people was a way to show hospitality and politeness.

It can be quite hard for international students to get used to the cultural differences at the beginning, but experiencing different cultures has been a great pleasure as part of the college life.



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Features

Charles Pointer: Oil Tycoon

By Randy Brown Jr.

"I love you" is what she whispered to me right before I was taken away, "I love you"; that's all that I could think about. I didn't kill anybody, well at least not to my knowledge. I may have ruffled a few feathers, scared a few people with my company's new ambitions, but I didn't kill anybody. I didn't ask to be rescued from the hands of law enforcement but here I am.

The boulevard buzzes with the sounds of horns, chatter, cell phone ringtones, and whatever else New York City can bare to hold between its sky-structured walls. I can hear them moving behind us, police, in the subway station below. Their boots and the concrete below are making music, the form of orchestral claps. An NYPD helicopter begins to hover over me and my security detail from above.

"Walk slowly," I tell my groomsmen, best man, and security guards. "Walk slowly, no need to cause a scene." The funny thing is that we are causing a scene.

We begin to cross the street, causing taxis, tour buses, and everyday commuters to halt. Many of the drivers beep their horns until they realize who it is crossing the street.

"Yo, Pointer, way to go man!" yells a stranger from his SUV.

"Charles Pointer marry me too!" yells an attractive woman who is stranded in the traffic.

A young man tries to run up to me but is pushed away by two of my twenty security guards. With a group of well-dressed men walking to my left and my right, one might have thought that the president was in town.

Within seconds the police begin to rush in trying their best to cut us off. The mesmerized New York City citizens recognize this and try their best to get in their way; opening car doors and shouting obscene words at the law enforcement personnel.

I look back and see the police that were pursuing us down in the subway struggling to get past a mob of bikers. By now four helicopters are sitting in the air above.

"Charles Pointer, stop where you are! Charles Pointer, stop where you are!" shouts one of the police man on his megaphone.

I do not intend on stopping. I can see the steps to the cathedral a few feet ahead. My men and I push past the last of the onlookers and make our way up the steps. Flashbulbs from cameras nearly blind us as we make it onto the concrete platform which leads to the door. Police stop at the bottom of the steps with their intricate bows and carbon fiber arrows drawn directly at my group. I make my way back through my security detail, trying my best to be seen by the law enforcement and viewers.

"New York City, I am an innocent man!" I shout out loud with a huge smile. "These men seek to undermine a divine gathering. I am innocent and have done no wrong. I am unarmed and do not wish to hurt anybody." I raise my hands and open my suit jacket as proof of what I'm saying. I know the cameras are on, I love the cameras; the police don't.

Somehow a television reporter gets through the raucous on the steps and raises his microphone up towards me.

"Charles, Timothy Downey— morning news!" He shouts above everyone else. "Did you orchestrate this escape?!"

"I had nothing to do with this," I reply with a smile.

Downey continues on nodding his head. "Were you aware of any plot to sabotage the prisoner transport bus?!"

"Not at all. The bus flipped over and my great staff here came to my aid; that's what they get paid to do. That is all I have to say." I turn my attention back to the crowd and wave once more.

"Do not go inside Pointer! You are under arrest!" shout the officers from the bottom of the steps.

My security guards pull me back behind them, but not before I reply, "I'm an innocent man New York! I'm an innocent man!"

The doors to the cathedral open, the noise from the chaos outside collides with the silence and reverence from inside the holy place. The seated audience, family and friends rise as the groomsmen instantly get into formation and usher the bridesmaids down the flowery decorated aisle. I follow close behind with my twenty guards not far back. A grumbling begins to crawl throughout the cathedral air as law enforcement enter the building. I casually greet my guests, shaking hands and kissing cheeks as I walk by.

Just as I stretch my hands to meet those of my fiancé a familiar voice resounds, "alright Pointer you've had your fun, party's over!"

I look over my shoulder and see Lieutenant Lander with his bow and arrow raised and pointed directly at me.

As if Lander will be amused, I turn to my fiancé Scarlett and softly say, "baby did you mail Lander an invitation? I don't remember seeing him on the guest list."

The frustrated Lieutenant repeats himself. "Pointer, party's over."

"But we're already here. Look," I say, gesturing with my

hands. "I look nice, Scarlett looks astonishingly beautiful, and you...well, LT you're not exactly dressed for the occasion."

The guests in attendance laugh amongst themselves, not wanting to irritate the Lieutenant any further.

"It's over Pointer walk towards me and we'll walk out peacefully."

"And cancel my wedding? Good luck telling Scarlett that we're not getting married. Go ahead she won't bite I promise. Matter of fact, tell everybody here that they have to go home."

"This is the last time that I'm going to ask."

Just as Lieutenant Lander is pulling his arrow back to strike, an old man walks forward creating a barrier between him and I.

"Deacon Franklin," says Lander, lowering his weapon. His eyes are growing bigger, his bottom lip stumbling back and forth between the lower layer of his teeth. The Lieutenant stutters his next words. "D,D- Deacon Fr-rank-k-l-lin..."

"Eugene Lander you should be ashamed of yourself; this is the lord's house," whispers the Deacon, pouting as only an elderly man can. The cathedral falls silent; you can hear a handkerchief drop. "Put down those bows and act like you have some respect. Wait till I tell this to Dorianne. Your mother has raised you better than this young man; repent!"

"But I..."

"Repent!"

The Lieutenant and his men hand their weapons over to my guards and take seats at the back of the room.

"Did you have to send the whole army?" I say in a low tone, turning to Scarlett.

"Sorry, what else was I supposed to do?"

I laugh in my reply. "Let's see, allow me to handle it."

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SPSU SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

"The clock was ticking and I'm trying to marry my man."

"Fine, just don't send Lopus next time; you know that guy gets trigger happy. He almost killed a cop."

"Alright, alright, just trying to protect you."

We continue the ceremony, to the displeasure of the law enforcement in attendance. After kissing my bride I turn to the crowd and the police officers; okay so I like to tease cops.

"I would love to stay and chat but we have a reception to get to and there's not enough food for all you guys, especially the dogs. Lieutenant you just had to bring the dogs."

My lawyer walks over to Lander, hands him a box of evidence, and then waves at me. The evidence places me in the Hamptons while a murder was taking place in Manhattan, one of my secretaries died. Lander gives me a puzzling look, knowing that as the world's richest oil tycoon, I have resources for days. There was no way that I was going to let someone set me up for murder.

"I love you," whispers Scarlett into my ear.

I embrace her with a kiss. I hear her loud and clear; only this time I'm not going anywhere.





Join SPSU on Reddit By Melanie Allen

I am excited to report that there is an SPSU 'sub-reddit' now. If you're not familiar with the social news site Reddit, perhaps you should make today the day you become familiar. Reddit operates by user submitted content, which is then 'upvoted' or 'downvoted' by the rest of the community. Sub-reddits are the mini-communities that make up the larger community of Reddit, allowing people to discuss specific topics and set their own rules of discourse. Because Reddit is most popular with 18-24 year olds attending or having completed college, followed closely by the demographic of 25-34 year olds (alexa.com), it is a hot place to discuss and read about the issues that are important to the traditional student's peer community.

You can reach the subreddit via <http://reddit.com/r/spsu>. Currently there are 72 readers and 48 news, including a request for news for The Sting. Thanks to thenamedone1 for creating it, I hope to see the community grow.

Attention: Juniors

There are now 90+ companies and organizations registered to attend the GACE College to Career Fair on Tuesday, April 10th from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Cobb Galleria. This fair is specifically for college students, upcoming grads and recent alumni from colleges throughout the state of Georgia and is not a public event.

Because of the size of this event, there will be companies and U.S. Government agencies there that you may not otherwise meet. There will also be several graduate schools in attendance as well.

To attend, you must:

1. Dress professionally
2. Bring copies of your resumes (some employers can take them, some cannot)
3. Bring your school id (a driver's license will work as well)
4. Prepare, prepare, prepare by learning about the companies/organizations who will be attending AND their job openings as well as how YOUR SKILLS match what they are seeking.

If you have never attended a career fair and are not sure what is expected of you, please take a look at our brief "What to do at a Career Fair guide."

http://www.spsu.edu/careerservices/students/documents/work_career_fair.pdf

Finding work is hard to find...

By Victoria Allen

It's that time of year again - time for the senior students to graduate, and time for the junior students to take over the helm. As we gear up for the summer internships, we need to push the peddle to the metal and get ready to go! In past articles that I have written, I would mention how I came across certain jobs leads and let you know where to find them. This article is no different. I came across my first lead on a freelance job site and I found the other lead when looking for an interesting event to attend in down town Atlanta. Although, some of you may have been able to attend the Career Job Fair on campus last month, others of you may not have had the opportunity to find any internship positions. Therefore, the two companies I will highlight are Lockheed Martin and the High Museum of Art Atlanta.

Lockheed Martin is a familiar engineering company that we can see from one side of campus with no problem. This company has jobs that range from Engineering, Graphic Design, Business, Intelligence Analysis, Environmental Safety, Marketing, and many more. Although, I will only mention the internship positions that they are currently looking to fill, if you type in the web address,

<http://www.lockheedmartinjobs.com/index.aspx>, you will find an internship position that is meant to teach you skills that cover a variety of techniques. One program in particular is the Operations Collegiate Development Program and it covers areas like Manufacturing, Industrial Engineering, Material Operations, and several others. They are also looking to fill positions in areas covering Finance, Programming, and Aircraft Design. These are just some of the internships that Lockheed Martin is offering at the moment.

Here's something to keep in mind: most internships do not offer payment, and these Lockheed intern postings did not mention if it is paid or unpaid. That is something that you will have to inquire about when you apply. Considering Lockheed is a prestigious engineering company, they handle confidential material and some positions will require you to pass a background check. Be prepared to serve a company that might consider you as an individual who will work with them in the future.

If you are focusing your career on media art or some form of visual design, this might be the company you should consider jumping into. The High Museum of Art surprised me with the range of internship positions they are looking to fill. This is a company whose main focus is art, but that isn't the only thing that needs management.

The High Museum of Art has a partnership with many organizations including SPSU and it has many programs that entertain people of all ages. Working for the High, as it is sometimes called, can be an experience of a life time. The summer program is unpaid but it gives you beneficial skills and knowledge that you can take with you anywhere. As their appreciation for services rendered, they do provide there interns with benefits that regular employees receive.

Features

Although the deadline for these positions has passed for the summer of 2012, the High, has a vast area of internship positions that you may be interested in. Here are some positions that you could look forward to participating in the future: Curator for Photography and Decorative Art and Design, Collections and Exhibitions, African Art, Rights and Reproduction, Education for School/Film Programs, and Museum Interpretation, Public Relations/Communications, Group Sales, and list goes on. This is the web address to get more information on the High Museum of Art for internship positions or a slew of other interesting activities, <http://www.high.org/Get-Involved/Internship-Opportunities.aspx>

Don't pass up the opportunity to expand your vision before you graduate college. Hands-on experience is the key to landing the career of your dreams and the skills you learn will stay with you forever.

So get in gear and get a head start before summer is here and gone. Zoommm!

Students meet with Home Depot Exec

By Vicki Nix

SPSU students received an unexpected opportunity to hear Home Depot CEO, Frank Blake speak on campus. The School of Engineering and Technology and Management hosted Mr. Blake on Wednesday, March 21st. He engaged the students in discussions about integrity in business. Blake has been with The Home Depot since 2002 and has served as vice chairman of the board of directors and executive vice president for business development and corporate operations. During this time, he was responsible for real estate, credit services, store construction, strategic business development and growth initiatives. He became the chairman and CEO of the company in 2007.

Prior to joining the senior management of The Home Depot, Blake served as deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) responsible for leading departmental policy decisions

and managing a \$19 billion annual budget. He also previously served as the senior vice president of corporate business development at General Electric (GE). There, he orchestrated worldwide mergers, acquisitions, dispositions and the identification of strategic growth opportunities. Blake also served as general counsel and head of business development for GE Power Systems.

In addition, Blake has served as general counsel for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), deputy counsel to vice president George Bush and law clerk to Justice Stevens of the U.S. Supreme Court. He holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard and a jurisprudence degree from Columbia University School of Law. Blake also serves on the board of directors for the Georgia Aquarium. SPSU students appreciated the opportunity to meet and talk with a leader with so much integrity and experience.

Career Center Corner

Step by step - Interviewing success

So, you attended the Spring Career Expo, followed up with the companies you were interested in, and now you find yourself with an interview! You should be proud, excited and eagerly awaiting this opportunity, but instead, you are panicked! You have the interview, but you just don't know how to prepare! Here are some quick, must know, tips for interviewing success:

Make sure to start with a good first impression:

1. Dress to impress: Men & Women both should have a business professional suit to wear to their interview. Check out "SPSU Career Services" on Facebook to see our album of professional dress examples.

2. Introductions: Maintain eye contact, smile, give a firm handshake and introduce yourself.

3. Show up on time: Give yourself ample time to get to the interview. Be mindful of traffic patterns, you may live 15 miles from downtown, but I guarantee you won't make it downtown in 20 minutes during rush hour! Drive the route ahead of time, if you have the chance. Print off back-up directions so you do not have to rely solely on your GPS, which isn't always accurate. If you have planned ahead and arrive early, go grab coffee, go park somewhere and read a book, just don't walk in more than 15 minutes early. The interviewer has scheduled their day to include this interview and you don't want to mess up their schedule by showing up too early or late!

4. Be Prepared: Show up to the interview full of knowledge and research you have done on the company. Google interview

questions and practice, practice, practice until you feel prepared to face many different scenarios. You can also attend an interview skill shop Career & Counseling hold each semester, or contact our office to schedule a mock interview to get ready! Have extra copies of your resume on nice resume paper in case you interview with additional people. Utilize a portfolio to store those extra resumes, and a pad of paper with three questions ready for you to ask the interviewer after the interview, things like: "What kind of professional development can an employer expect from your company?" or "What is your favorite part about working at XYZ Company?" Just make sure NOT to ask about the salary here.

5. During the Interview: Keep good, straight posture and a pleasant expression on your face. Maintain eye contact, not just with the interviewer, but with anyone else in the room, as well. Do not curse, use slang or speak negatively of any past jobs or employers. Leave your cell phone in the car; a ringing phone could cost you a job. Watch for nervous habits like knuckle cracking, shaking your leg, biting nails, or anything else that could be unprofessional or distracting.

6. After the Interview: Make sure to ask for everyone's contact information or business cards and follow up after the interview, within 24 hours, with a hand written or email thank you note. Express your appreciation for the interview and that you enjoyed learning about XYZ Company, and hope to hear from them in the future!

Please visit us in the Career & Counseling Office, terrace level of the student center, for Interview Prep Materials!

My Car Story, Part 2

Even Worse than the First Part

By Alexander Hartel

So here I was with a 1998 Oldsmobile Regency that was all that I did not expect it to be. For the two-and-one-half years that I owned that automobile, I ran into one problem after one another. (Eventually, I ran into the car in front of me on GA 400 – but I'll talk about that later.) The fact of the matter is that, after witnessing the failure of the air conditioning, the collapse of the headliner, the trunk that wouldn't stay shut, and a host of other problems, I realized that the main requirement for owning that car was a healthy sense of humor. I believe it was Lincoln who said, "If I didn't laugh, I would cry." Well, if I didn't develop the ability to laugh about my car's problems, I would probably go insane. (Or maybe I already was when I bought the car!)

The sense of humor became especially important one day when I was driving down Barrett Parkway on my way to work. When I was sitting at a red light outside one of the entrances to Town Center Mall, my car started sputtering, grinding, writhing, moaning, and agonizing for no apparent reason. I started to pull into the turn lane that lead into the mall so I could move my car to a parking lot before it died out. My timing was perfect. My car died in the turn lane, blocking the entrance to the mall. Thank goodness it wasn't Black Friday! Anyway, two police officers eventually arrived on the scene and used one of their vehicles to push my car out of the turn lane and into a parking lot, leaving me to contact my insurance company and ask them to tow my Olds to the mechanic. When the dispatcher at the insurance company asked me to describe the car so the tow truck driver could find it, I said, "Well, it's covered in pink flower petals." I always kept it parked under a flowering tree at home. I suppose that when the tow truck driver arrived on the scene he thought that I was on my way to my honeymoon.

As it turned out, this whole episode was the result of some coolant having leaked into the engine. Of course, I had to get the engine repaired – and, of course, my indomitable Oldsmobile had more surprises for me after that. However, I won't bore you with a comprehensive list of all the issues that my car developed. I am not sure if I can even remember all of them. Suffice it to say that I have a suspicion that the dealer who sold me this car reset the odometer so it would look like it had lower mileage than it really did. This car simply did not have the health of a 50,000-mile-old child.

Liars Anonymous

By Victoria Allen

Did they teach you how to lie, or were you born with that ability?
Do you ever tell the truth; I really, really doubt it
Will you have the courage to honestly speak a word of un-denying,
Miss- overt-tant, in-despicable, fabricated, non-truthful facts?
I already think THAT's A k-NO-w!?!
I can't stand living with a person who can tell no truths, speak no facts,
And still give no proofs to the realization of factual litigation for
Information that keeps getting passed around thru the vine that produces wine.
I just need to pass the buck, cause you a muck-i-duck-ing LIAR.
You need to enroll in a place that can teach you how to be a REAL...
You need to visit the place with the tall bell that rings high across the sky on day of REST...
For he who wept the tears of joy, cry's for life to move on.
Liars anonymous, please enroll.

I once heard a story about a guy who bought three Volkswagens because he thought they would appreciate in value and he would be able to eventually sell them for a profit. Of course, that was a ridiculous decision. Maybe this guy had heard the joke about the Skoda, a Czech car that was none too popular. Czech tour guides used to say, "How do you double the value of a Skoda? Fill up the gas tank!"1 Obviously, this would not apply to a Volkswagen. However, I think I just about doubled the value of my Oldsmobile when I slapped a couple of bumper stickers on it!

To get back to the story, my car problems were getting so bad that I knew I would have to sell the car soon. As of last fall, my plan was to hold on to the car until the spring, so that I could save up more money before I had to purchase a new vehicle. Unfortunately, as so often happens in life, things didn't work out as planned. On one rainy evening in November, my Oldsmobile troubles were taken off my hands by accident –literally. I was struggling through heavy traffic on Georgia 400 when I suddenly realized that the cars in front of me were a little closer than I had realized (if that makes any sense). I tried to slow to a stop, but I did not have enough time. There was a loud, dreadful crash – and suddenly my car's hood was folded up like an accordion. Well, maybe it wasn't quite like an accordion, but it was folded badly enough that I couldn't see the license plate of the SUV that I had rear-ended. Strangely enough, the driver of that SUV quickly left the scene of the accident and I never heard from him again. I would have left the scene of the accident, too, if it weren't for the fact that my car wouldn't budge. Pretty soon, the police arrived, then the tow truck, and the rest is history.

Unfortunately, I had never purchased collision insurance for my vehicle, so the insurance company didn't give me a dime for my wrecked car. There were two bright spots in this situation, however. First, the other driver never filed an insurance claim against me. Maybe he felt sorry for me. Second, the police officer never wrote me a ticket. If he had, though, it would have been only my second ticket in my life. My first was for turning left on a red light. I never have gotten a speeding ticket, come to think of it. The cops could never catch up! Just kidding, of course. Honest!

March

By: Randy Brown Jr.

So you lost her
and now must go back to your despondent disguise of a life.
In macrocosm, at least she didn't boast
that you were her friend.

Your demure character has failed you again.
The town's people gather in Scottish attire,
playing musical auletics.

A kestrel is released,
a flag waves at half mast,
a band of reserves fire off their muskets,
a foray of bullets barrel towards Venus.
As if you deserved the gallantry,
falling face first into muck as the townspeople
mourn you in symphony.

Or maybe you're innocence
and she was the one that plead guilty.
Nevertheless, your stress will leave you depressed,
pleading for answers on the day you regressed.



randybrownjr.tumblr.com

Doubling Extraneous

By: Randy Brown Jr.

She will cry inside,
closing her eyes
only to see the mutiny rising from the
cause and effect of
contemptuous officials on which
her heart sat.

She will cry inside.
The voices of those that abide within,
clarion(ic) proportions.
The quantum of their freedom is nonexistent,
so they choose to resist them,
"them" or authoritarian leaders,
Wasps of political descent.

She will cry inside,
the torque that it takes to
turn this land up on its side
will make Global Warming about face and disperse.

She cried inside,
upon seeing everyone so socially discreet,
and even when they met,
their channels of communication were oxidizing at the frames.
Syntax of insanity;
omg, ty, ttly.
Explain that to the elders of humanity.

She cried inside
because she knew that the country was she
and the people were we.
Succumbed to oblivion along lines which we could not even
speak.
Welcomed the end on red carpets.
Satiated with the norm, television, and elections for equivo-
catists
or equivocators for all the grammar haters...
as if it mattered,

until now.
Umbrellas of pillars used to storm the north and south.

She cries realizing it was all a dream,
and the reality:
the freedom to choose was fabricated
or rather slated upon our requests,
but we're deaf to our needs
as our wants own the peaks and clefts of our mentality;
the authenticity of actuality.



Hornets Finish Season and Begin Quest for Championship

By Zachary Duncan

The Southern Poly Men's basketball team finished their season on February 27 with a win against the Emmanuel Lions. The Hornets ended their season with a 25-5 record, which gives them the number two seed in the East division of the SSAC. They will be going into the playoffs after a red hot month of February, in which they won seven games, and only lost one. This included a big win against Shorter University.

At the time Shorter University was the number one ranked team in the nation, and Southern Poly was ranked number four. The Hornets had some difficult moments in the first half of the game, and at one point trailed by nine points. However they were able to pull back into the game right before halftime, and went into the second half down 44-41. At the beginning of the second half, the Hornets started trailing again, until they went on a scoring run by nailing several threes in a row. This put the game within two points, and then the turning point of the game happened. One of Shorter University's players was on a wide open fast break. He looked over his shoulder, and went up for what would have been a crowd silencing jam, but he missed it! SPSU grabbed the rebound took it down court and popped a three to give them their first lead of the game. From this point on SPSU was able to control the game, and ended up winning 84-81. This was only the second loss for Shorter of the year, and it lowered their rank to number two. The Hornets moved up to number three.

So now after an exciting season, we will see how the Hornets fare in the postseason. Our first opponent will be Belhaven University, who is the number three seed in the West. Next issue we will have a playoff review.

	3/30/2012	Truett McConnell	Marietta, GA	1:00
	3/31/2012	Truett McConnell	Marietta, GA	12:00 DH
	4/10/2012	Reinhardt University	Marietta, GA	2:00 DH
	4/13/2012	Faulkner University	Marietta, GA	2:00
	4/14/2012	Faulkner University	Marietta, GA	1:00 DH

Separation - Continued from page 9

contraceptives are to be considered preventive care. (The Institute of Medicine recently said it is preventive care.) The assumption should be accepted for similar reasons that food services have to follow regulations on what they can sell: the common good. After all, as philosopher Mike La Bossiere has said: "Such coverage is claimed to have numerous benefits for the people covered as well as the general public (such as lowering the number of unwanted pregnancies and all that entails.)"

It also seems wrong to justify a violation of freedom by appealing to freedom. We should then conclude that it seems morally acceptable to mandate the coverage of contraceptives.

Faculty and staff participate in SPSU self-defense class



AMPVO (Active Military Personnel and Veterans Organization)



This group is open for any student, faculty and citizen who supports the military and its veterans and wishes to help one another in completion of college or finding employment.

In our future, we look forward to bringing an official VA office to campus to assist eligible students with the information about financial aid options, employment and other resources. If you have any ideas that would benefit

AMPVO and its members please feel free to contact AMPVO.

The purpose of this organization is to provide networking from within the organization and post graduation for career opportunities. The organization provides scholarships to those who apply and are selected. Speakers from the government, military and veteran friendly companies and external military organizations are invited to speak at meetings. Members of this organization who hold an office or are on a committee will gain leadership skills that will be valued in their future careers. AMPVO has no dues, no membership fees, or any required amount to become a member. AMPVO is looking for new officers and committee members.

For more information contact Daniel Timmons, AMPVO Commanding Officer through Orgsync.com or email AMPVO@spsu.edu

Hornets loading the bases

By Amanda Blanton

The SPSU baseball team is in the thick of their season and has a 24-12 overall record, 11-7 conference record and sits No. 20 in Division 1. The Hornets had early challenges in their schedule with five of their first ten games being against nationally ranked teams in the NAIA national top 25 poll.

The Hornets opened their season with a big 8-6 win over No. 5 Embry-Riddle. They have had several ups and downs including another big win against No. 7 Cumberland and a sweep of conference opponent Brewton-Parker in Mount Vernon.

As a result of losing a number of key players this year, the team has an assortment of new talent including a few transfers from Division 1 schools. Hornets' Head Coach Matt Griffin, in his 9th season with the team, says the keys to the team's success are its strong pitching and defense.

The team is No. 3 in Division 1 of the NAIA in total doubles (83). In the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC), they are No. 4 for a .312 batting average and No. 4 in runs batted in (RBI) per game (6.14). The pitching team consists of notable players Kevin Bibler, Matt Kimbrel and Casey Shiver who ranks No. 2 in D1 in wins (7). At bat there is Jon White who ranks No. 2 in D1 in total doubles (17), Jordan Williams who leads the team with a batting average of .381 and Kendall Wehrle with an individual game high of 17 put-outs. Devin Thaut has an individual game high of 13 total bases, 3 doubles and 3 homeruns.

Last year, the team went 41-17, was the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) runner-up, and earned an appearance in the NAIA national tournament.

With springtime and beautiful weather finally upon us, it is the perfect time to come out to Walter J. Kelley Field and support your Hornets in the remainder of their home games!



March Madness

By: Randy Brown Jr.

The quiet before the storm has arrived; the NCAA basketball tournament is the storm. Bracket fanatics beware, while several teams have stepped into the forefront within the last days leading into the collegiate playoffs, there are some who may not be as good as advertised. Here's a look at the Contenders, Pretenders and possible Cinderella teams.

Contenders:

Syracuse: This team lives by the 2-3 zone on the defensive end of the floor. A combination of team defense and a good transition offense has the Cuse rolling into the tournament with a lot of momentum.

Kentucky: Who needs team defense when you have the nation's top shot blocker (Anthony Davis) roaming inside. The freshman forward has provided plenty of highlights this season, including a shot block as time expired to beat the North Carolina Tarheels. This team will sure be fun to watch come tournament time. Their one loss record is all you need to know about their dominance during the season.

North Carolina: Four names: Sophomore Harrison Barnes, Sophomore Kendall Marshall, Senior Tyler Zeller (ACC player of the Year candidate), and Junior John Henson. I'm no Tarheels fan, in fact I'm far from it; Duke to be exact. Nonetheless, show me a lineup like that on any day and it is going to be eye-popping. While the Heels struggled out the gate, the ACC regular season champs now have the momentum in their conference heading towards tournament time. Not only does this group play great on the ball defense, but they can also spread the floor

and pick teams apart on the offensive end.

Kansas: For the eighth straight year the Jayhawks have won the Big 12 championship and will be an obvious force going into the tournament. Kansas is led by National Player of the Year contender Thomas Robinson and a slew of defensive forwards inside. The Jayhawks have the depth to compete and will likely have a number one seed come bracket time.

Pretenders:

Duke: Now for all of the Duke fans out there, calm down (I'm a diehard Duke fan too). I am just smart enough to know that my beloved Blue Devils can't play defense, don't play defense, and will likely see an early exit because of it. Now I know Coach K will try to rally the troops, but if North Carolina can drag Duke around at home the way they did on March 3 then Duke does not stand a chance against NCAA's other top teams. For all it's worth, I sure hope that I am wrong.

Cinderella:

Florida State: Big Wins is the name of the game for this group of overachievers and oh did they win big. The Seminoles beat North Carolina in Tallahassee and then went on the road to beat Duke at Cameron Indoor Stadium, in the same week. What Florida State lacks in overall talent it makes up for with energy; energy from their starters and energy from their bench players. This will definitely be a team to keep an eye on come tournament time. Cinderellas believe that they can beat anybody no matter the disadvantage. (Apologies Murray St. but as of March 5 you are 30-1 Record; you're not sneaking up on anybody.)

Bathtubs - racing into fall

Bathtub Races will be moved to fall to ensure the best built bathtubs and more interest from incoming students. Stay tuned within the next few weeks as the Bathtub Racing Association will be working hard to provide building specification and event details - building on a long tradition of engineering and excitement. For more information, please email Bathtub Racing Association's President Daniel Silver at dsliver@spsu.edu.

Bicycles on Campus

The EE4800 (Senior Design) class is developing a fully automated bicycle share system. The system will allow SPSU students/faculty use their Hornet ID's to easily/ quickly check out a bicycle at a state-of-the art bike rack. We also plan on the bicycles having an automatic head-light and a speedometer/ odometer display features. Finally the bicycles will collect user data such as time used; distance traveled; and average speed that can be later queried via our website.

This short survey was designed to assisting in determining the SPSU students' needs. Please take the time to answer each question as truthfully as possible.

Complete the bicycle survey at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BCRLLNT>

SPSU Cycling Club

for more information beginners and experienced riders should contact Chase Carscallen at ccarscal@gmail.com

New Peeps on Campus



Orientation Fair

April 14th - Promote your organization

rlunk@spsu.edu



News around campus

Rape Prevention Program

April 10, 12, 17 and 19 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

\$10.00 per person

Four - three-hour classes:

The Student Center Ballroom

The SPSU Police Department is presenting a Rape Prevention Program available to all faculty, staff, and students. This personal safety program has been designed to help women defend themselves against a possible attacker. Attendance of all four classes is required to complete the course. It can be paid by cash, check, or credit card at the Police Department or the Business Office before the first class on April 10th. Classes are limited to 10 attendants per class. Call 678-915-5555 for more information and contact Sergeant Jasmine Odom at jodom@spsu.edu to register.

Student Awards Banquet

Friday, April 20th 6:30 p.m.

Rec and Wellness Center

Please plan to attend this special event which recognizes the significant accomplishments of our outstanding student body. There is no charge for the banquet thanks to funding from our Student Government Association. A larger space is being used this year so that we can hopefully accommodate all those who would like to attend.

Please RSVP by sending a message to spsuawards@gmail.com which includes the name of all attendees. Business attire is requested. We will begin presenting awards once everyone has gone through the buffet line and the evening will conclude with the brief inauguration of next year's SGA officers and council members.

CAMPUS WORSHIP

Every Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.

Student Center Room 214

Join in the fun of worship and studying the bible - hang out and meet new people. A great place to be when you need help and guidance for trying times and problems you may be facing in your life! You'll be glad you came!!

PLAY KICKBALL

Saturday, June 9th, 10 AM.

Hammond Park

Join the Alzheimer's Association, Georgia Chapter for the 3rd Annual PLAY KICKBALL to END Alzheimer's tournament on Registration includes: T-shirt, lunch and the chance to win it all! A team can be a minimum of 10 players. A team must have

a minimum of 4 girls. Each team will be guaranteed to play at least two games. Contact Shannon Primm at shannon.primm@alz.org or 404-728-6066 for more information.

ELS Language Centers

Make a new friend and learn about the world – and never leave campus!

Would you like to make a friend from another country? Would you like to help an English language learner with his or her conversation skills? ELS Language Centers is looking for conversation partners for our ELS students! We are looking for friendly people who are able to give an hour or two per week talking with our students. If you are interested, please come visit us in the Atrium building (offices 172-175), give us a call at 678-915-4960 or email us at atl@els.edu.

Cobb County Relay for Life

Friday- Saturday

May 11, 7 p.m. - May 12, 7 am

Jim Miller Park

If you are interested in being a part of the SPSU Team and would like more information, please contact: studentlife@spsu.edu

Join Rotaract

Thursdays at 12 Noon

Student Life Office - Student Center

As a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30, Rotaract members address the physical and social needs of the community while promoting international understanding and peace through friendship and service.

Alumni Announcements

Car Tags: SPSU mini-billboards

FREE iPAD - first 100 people to post a photo of themselves with their SPSU license plate onto the Alumni Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/spsualumni>) will be entered in a drawing for a FREE iPAD!

Save a window: Buy a brick

Commemorate your accomplishments and days on campus! The SPSU Alumni Association invites you to help create and enhance SPSU's picturesque landscape by purchasing a brick on Alumni Walk. Include your name on the Southern Polytechnic State University Alumni Walk - Bricks are engraved with 3 lines and are available for a contribution of \$100 each. Bricks can be purchased online at <http://www.spsu.edu/giving/waystogive/bricks.htm> or calling Andy Schmidt at aschmidt@spsu.edu or (678) 915-7351.

Aerospace

Tuesday Documentary Series

Free for everyone 11 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Q-202 Auditorium – Engineering Technology Center

Date

April 3rd

April 10th

April 17th

April 24th

Theme

Space

Space

Space

Space

Documentary Title

The future of space travel

Base camp moon

Dream is alive

The Shuttle

SPSU Arts & Sciences Showcase

April 17th - 23rd

April 17-26

6th Annual Honors Comp II: Photo Exhibition and Sale
Student Center & J Building

April 18-23

School of Arts and Sciences Poster Contest: Student Center

April 19

SPSU Band Concert: 4:30 p.m. Student Center Theatre
Dedicated to the late Jack Haley, a band friend and colleague,
Professor of Speech at SPSU - 2001-2010
Light refreshments served after the concert

April 20

A&S Showcase: 1-4pm Student Center Ballroom

April 26

SPSU Band Concert (weather permitting)
Outdoor amphitheater

(NSBE)

ELECTION TIME

National Society of Black Engineers Election Platform will be due by April 6th and the election process will begin that following week start on April 10th-12th. The time to step up and make a change on campus and in the lives of many is now. If you are interested in running for a position on SPSBE Chapter Executive Board, please contact Miguelande at spsbe.parliamentarian@gmail.com for detail information.

Car Wash

Saturday, April 14th
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Southern Polytechnic Society of Black Engineers (SPSBE)

Come by Zion Baptist Church 165 LEMON STREET. MARIETTA, GA 30060 and get that pollen off your car and while supporting a great cause.

SALSA NIGHT

@ SPSU

Thursday April 5th 7:30 p.m.
Student Center Ballroom

Have you always wanted to learn Salsa to impress that special someone? Well, this is your chance! SHPE is hosting SALSA NIGHT @ SPSU!

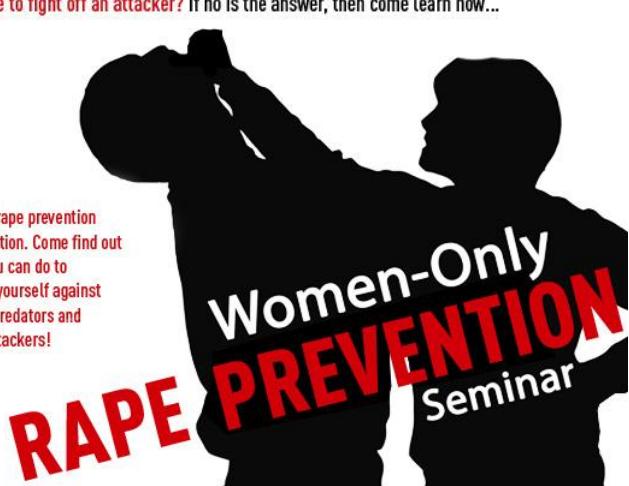
A professional salsa dancer will teach salsa & perform. Everyone Welcome - Bring all your friends for free food - drinks - raffles prizes & DJ!

SPSU - Education applied!

Would you really be able to fight off an attacker? If no is the answer, then come learn how...



90% of rape prevention is education. Come find out what you can do to protect yourself against sexual predators and other attackers!



The SPSU Police Department is offering a women's only rape prevention class that's open to faculty, staff, and students for \$10. Attendance of four 3-hour classes is required for course completion.

Dates: Tuesdays/Thursdays 3:00pm - 6:00pm

April 10th, 12th, 17th, and 19th

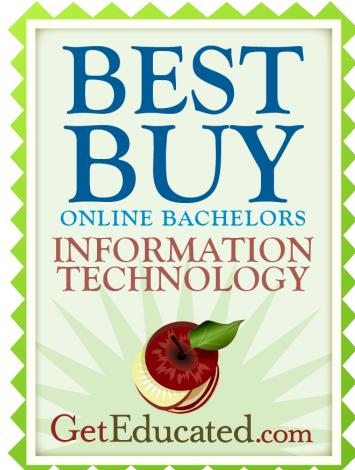
TO REGISTER CONTACT: Sgt. Odom jodom@spsu.edu

ARCH 4th year Studio Students and ETCMA Applied Graphic students compete in SPSU Design Challenge



Students exchange design concepts and strategies for the transformation of Building D

Consumer group ranks SPSU as a ...



Southern Polytechnic State University's online Bachelor of Information Technology has been ranked as one of the top twenty "best buys" in the country by the education web site GetEducated.com, a consumer group that rates, ranks, and verifies the cost and credibility of online colleges and online universities.

GetEducated.com ranked University System of Georgia's WebBSIT program sixteenth in the nation, out of 88 schools.

Southern Polytechnic State University program is taught through the School of Computing and Software Engineering. Known for its quality, affordability, and commitment to student service, the program was started to meet the needs of busy professionals who saw the benefits of continuing their education, but knew it would be tough to juggle their career and family responsibilities with a standard class schedule.

To learn more about the Georgia WebBSIT program at Southern Polytechnic State University, please visit <http://www.spsu.edu/itdegrees/>

The 4th Annual



June 6-8, 2012

Southern Polytechnic State University, Marietta, GA

Deadlines Extended

Call for Proposals & Papers

The Program Committee invites the submission of abstracts of proposed presentations for the 4th Annual Polytechnic Summit. The main theme for the Polytechnic Summit is the "Polytechnic Experience." The audience for this conference will be a mix of faculty, students, administrators and professionals from industry and government who seek to share and learn more about the unique nature of the polytechnic university experience.

To be considered, please submit your proposal (abstract required) and/or paper (optional - See below) to: <https://www.easychair.org/account/signin.cgi?conf=polysummit2012>.

(If you do not already have a free account on EasyChair, you may first sign up using the link just below the sign in box after you follow the above link.)

Abstract Only Submissions:

- Title of presentation
- Type of presentation (paper, poster, panel discussion or workshop)
- Name(s) of author(s) or presenter(s) and affiliation(s)
- Short description (50 word maximum) include with your abstract in the "Abstract" field during submission.
- 250-350 word abstract that does NOT identify the author(s)/presenter(s)

Abstracts with Paper Submissions:

A paper can be submitted along with your abstract. However, please only submit a paper if you want it considered for publication in the *International Journal of Polytechnic Studies*. Abstracts and papers will undergo separate reviews. All accepted abstracts will appear in the Conference Proceedings. Accepted papers will subsequently undergo an editorial review before being published. Note that your abstract may be accepted for presentation and publication in the proceedings while your paper is not accepted for publication in the Journal. Papers should be double spaced, in 12 point Times New Roman type, and follow the APA style.

Important dates:

March 26, 2012

April 23, 2012

May 25, 2012

June 6-8, 2012

Visit the website for more Polytechnic Summit details at:
<http://polytechnicsummit.org/index.html>

Please direct your general questions to: 2012PolytechnicSummit@spsu.edu

Please direct your proposal questions to: Poly2012Proposals@spsu.edu

Southern Polytechnic State University is located about 15 miles north of Atlanta, the capital of Georgia and the Gateway of the South. Numerous world-class attractions for all are accessible within 30-45 minutes by ground transportation

