

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST 22

Last day to add or audit a course
 Last day to drop and receive financial credit
 Last day to apply for fall graduation
 Late registration ends (includes tuition waivers)
 Last day to apply for book allowance

AUGUST 30

Aggie Football, Opponent: Johnson C. Smith, Aggie Stadium, 6 p.m., \$



SEPTEMBER 1

Labor Day (University Holiday)

SEPTEMBER 6

Aggie Football, Opponent: Winston-Salem State, Aggie Stadium, 6 p.m., \$

The N.C. A&T Ticket Sales Office is located in Brown Hall, corner of Laurel and Bluford streets. For information, call (336) 334-7749.



THE AGGIE REPORT

A Biweekly Newsletter for Faculty and Staff of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University VOL 10 • NO 1 • August 22, 2008

A&T Offers Text Message Alerts to Cell Phones

North Carolina A&T State University recently adopted e2Campus, a new notification system that enables the university to send urgent news to cell phones and via other methods. At N.C. A&T, the system is being called AggieAlert.

This notification system allows university officials to send instant alerts directly to registered subscribers' university email accounts and personal mobile devices via SMS text messages. Notices also will appear on A&T's website – www.ncat.edu – as well as appear as a pop-up to anyone using Google, Yahoo or AOL as their home page.

Once a user signs up for the service, the university can text her/his cell phone with timely information about emergencies. Depending on the cell phone plan, there may be a nominal fee from the carrier to receive text messages, but there is no charge from the school to use the service.

The service is available to all current A&T faculty, staff and students. To learn more, or to sign up, go to www.ncat.edu/AggieAlert.

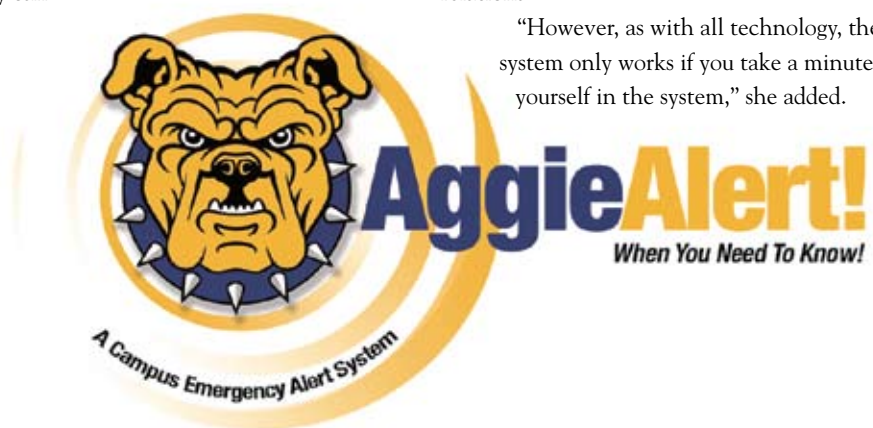
"The university is proactive about informing the campus community when emergencies occur, and

this system provides a quicker, more inclusive way to reach students, faculty and staff," explains Kimberly Sowell, interim assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. "Cell phones, wireless PDAs, pagers and email are invaluable tools that could end up saving lives."

As soon as faculty, staff and students sign up, the alerts will go directly to their cell phones the minute the news is entered into the system.

"AggieAlert is convenient because it reaches people whether they are on campus or off campus at the time of the emergency," said Mable Scott, special assistant to the vice chancellor for development and university relations.

"However, as with all technology, the notification system only works if you take a minute to register yourself in the system," she added.



Ambitious SECC is on the Horizon

Very soon, North Carolina A&T employees, retired employees and students will be asked to dig deeper into their pockets to contribute more to this year's State Employees Combined Campaign (SECC).

SECC is the only state approved payroll deductible charitable giving campaign. Once again, the campaign leadership is asking A&T employees to step forward and make a difference by giving back to the community, state and nation (or internationally) and become Partners in Giving.

"Last year the Aggie community exceeded the \$120,000 goal by \$50,721! The campus is charged with raising \$135,000 this year, and we hope to surpass last year's total as well as the number of individuals contributing to the campaign," said James J. Gooch, campaign chairman for the third consecutive year.

Nearly 900 Aggies – 891 to be exact – made a contribution to the 2007 campaign.

The 2008 campaign officially begins Sept. 1 and ends Oct. 31. Chancellor Stanley F. Battle will lead the campus wide kick-off celebration, which will be held 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, in Stallings Ballroom.

SECC began in 1984 as an effort to consolidate state employees' giving to charitable agencies into one annual campaign. Hundreds of charitable agencies, including United Way and North Carolina A&T University Foundation, Inc., participate in this campaign. All of the agencies are carefully selected and, historically, no more than 14 percent of a contribution goes to administrative costs while about 86 percent goes to the actual program.

"As we are faced with more and more natural disasters, health issues, and global and economic uncertainties, the possibility of needing assistance is greater," Gooch said. "Our monetary contributions to the agencies that serve individuals, families and the community will ensure that they are there when help is needed."

Each contributor may designate one or more SECC charitable organizations to receive her/his gift. For example, to designate the North Carolina A&T University Foundation, choose code 2525 and indicate the university department or entity. Undesignated gifts will be allocated to one or more of the approved SECC charitable organizations by the Local Advisory Committee.

Employees who give \$150 or more will be recognized as leadership givers.

Individuals may make their contributions through payroll deduction. The deductions would begin in January 2009 and continue each month throughout the year. All contributors have the option of making a one-time donation by check or bankcard.

The campaign is not just for state employees. Retirees and students are encouraged to join the campaign. (Be certain to indicate "N.C. A&T retiree" on the forms.)

This year, each college, school and administrative division will appoint representatives to manage the campaign (e.g. promote and solicit). For additional information, contact James J. Gooch at jjgooch@ncat.edu, or the designated SECC representative for your division/unit.



Gooch



Edwards



Torres



Wilson

2008 SECC Executive Committee
James J. Gooch, Campaign Chairman
 Academic Affairs
Joyce P. Edwards
 Career Services
Linda R. Wilson
 Sebastian Health Center
Gail Torres
 Budget and Planning

2008 SECC Steering Committee
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 Facilities

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Sheila M. Whitley
 Journalism and Mass Communication Department
Bettye Young-Stewart
 Sebastian Health Center



Chi Anyansi-Archibong, professor of international management in the School of Business and Economics, visited Japan, June 20-July 7, as a participant in the International Faculty Development Seminar that was organized by the Council on International Education Exchange. The trip was partially funded by a fellowship from CIEE. Anyansi-Archibong plans to bring Japan's contemporary culture into her classroom as a comparison of the traditional era. Emphasis will be on the impact of team work effectiveness.



Solomon Bililign, professor of physics in the College of Arts and Sciences, has received a three-year grant in the amount of \$313,000 from the National Science Foundation for his proposal, "Kinetics and Thermochemistry Studies of Carboxylic and Other Acids Using Negative Ion Proton Transfer Mass Spectrometry (NI-PTMS)."



Chandra M. Caple, staff counselor in the Counseling Service Office, has been elected president of the North Carolina College Counseling Association, which is a division of the North Carolina Counseling Association. Caple's term is for one year, 2008-2009.



Chimalum Nwankwo, chair of the department of English, College of Arts and Sciences, was a special guest of the Christopher Okigbo Poetry Society in Abuja, Nigeria. Nwankwo gave a reading from his poetry books and fielded questions from the audience. He also gave a talk at the University of Nigeria on "Myths and Folktales in African Literature."



DeWayne Wickham, a columnist for *USA Today* and Gannett News Service and director of the Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies at N.C. A&T, has an article in *EBONY* magazine (August 2008), where he discusses the findings from the *Kerner Plus 40 Report* he and a team of journalists worked on and released in February. Wickham and Tukufu Zuberi, director of the Center for Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, co-edited *Kerner Plus 40 Report*, which examines America 40 years after the 1968 Kerner Commission Report. The project included extensive reporting in major American cities by journalists.



New graduates of GTCC join Alton Thompson (second from left), interim provost at N.C. A&T, and Donald W. Cameron (second from right), president of GTCC, at a reception GTCC recently hosted in recognition of an agreement between the two institutions that promotes a seamless transition from the community college to the university. Each graduate has received a \$1,000 scholarship to attend A&T this fall.

AGGIE BITS

Except for the Thanksgiving holiday, the winter holidays, and the months of June and July, The *Aggie Report* is published biweekly by the University Relations Office. Information received after the deadline will be considered for the next edition. The copy deadlines for 2008-09 are Aug. 5, Aug. 19, Sept. 2, Sept. 16, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Oct. 28, Nov. 11, Nov. 24, Dec. 9 (for the Jan. 9, 2009, issue), Jan. 6, Jan. 20, Feb. 3, Feb. 17, March 3, March 17, March 31, April 14, April 28, and May 12. Details on how to submit information are available online at www.ncat.edu/~newsinfo/publications/policies/copy_deadlines.html.

The Office of Summer Sessions and Outreach has received a grant award of \$25,000 from the AT&T Foundation to implement "Project Something New: Newly Empowered Youths to be Decision Makers through Wireless Technology," an 18-week Saturday Academy Program beginning this fall. The tutorial program will serve a select group of underserved middle school students enrolled in the Guilford County Schools system that are less likely to advance in subjects such as science, technology, engineering and math. The departments of electrical engineering and graphic communications and technology at N.C. A&T are participating in the collaboration. Sharon Criner, associate director for outreach in the Office of Summer Sessions and Outreach, is the principal investigator.

The N.C. A&T Teaching Fellows Program in the School of Education is one of 14 sub-grantees of a Learning to Teach Learning to Serve grant awarded to UNC Chapel Hill. The three-year grant provides \$20,000 each year that must be matched by the Teaching Fellows Program and the School of Education. The grant is being used to augment the School of Education's service learning curriculum and the SMART (Service, Mentoring, Academics, Responsibility, Teamwork) Enrichment Program Literacy Tutorial for students in grades 3-5. Sharon Hoard coordinates the Teaching Fellows Program at N.C. A&T and is the principal investigator for the grant.

If you haven't visited the university's home page all summer, there is a link for the new Aggie Family Information page – www.ncat.edu/~univrel – that features announcements, condolences, invitations and other date sensitive campus news. Managed by University Relations, updates are made each afternoon. Send information before 2 p.m. to mables@ncat.edu, and be sure to include all pertinent details (who, what, when, where, why) along with a contact name, telephone number and email address. All information should be submitted via email in plain text format in the message section or as a Microsoft Word attachment. Photographs that accompany condolences must be submitted in PDF or JPEG (*.jpg) format. Examine the information/document for spelling, grammatical errors and typographical errors BEFORE sending it for display on the webpage.

RAMSeS@NCAT

North Carolina A&T State University is now using a new electronic research administration system called RAMSeS@NCAT that is administered by the Division of Research and Economic Development (DORED).

RAMSeS is a "cradle-to-grave" research proposal and award management system that provides a full range of functionalities, from pre-award (creation and electronic routing of new proposals, including electronic departmental approval and Principal Investigator certification) through post-award (account set up and award management), as well as serves as a data repository with a comprehensive reporting functionality.

Effective July 1, proposals are now submitted to the Office of Sponsored Programs through RAMSeS, which allows the office to retain an electronic copy of all documents associated with proposals and awards. This also allows the principal investigator (PI) to post drafts of

the proposal and budget for review by Research Services.

This web-based system is accessible through the Internet – <https://ncat.myresearchonline.org/ramses> – and will result in time and effort efficiencies. A link for RAMSeS is also on DORED's homepage. A&T employees may log into the system using their email address and password.

UNC General Administration (GA) is requiring the implementation of RAMSeS across the 16-member UNC system. A&T is the second UNC school to implement the system, but all schools must be active by September 2009.

DORED will offer training sessions at the beginning of the fall semester. Call (336) 334-7995 to schedule a session or send an email to Liwen Han, lhan@ncat.edu, or Mitzi Bond, mbond@ncat.edu.

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