

Strictly Business

Fall 2019



**Bachelor of Science
with Majors in:**

- Accounting
- Acquisition & Contract Management
- Health Care Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Assurance Management
- Logistics & Supply Chain Management
- Management
- Management of Technology

Masters of Science

- Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management

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Athens State University Welcomes New President

When Dr. Bob Glenn resigned as President of Athens State University in July 2018, a long nationwide search process was employed to select the University's next President. The search involved the assistance of an organization called Academic Search, as well as an internal search committee and forums attended by faculty, staff, and students. Of the three final candidates who were brought to campus, Dr. Philip Way was selected as the 37th President of Athens State University. Dr. Way holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Industrial and Business Studies and a Master of



Arts in Industrial Relations from the University of Warwick and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Selwyn College, Cambridge University. He also completed the Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship and Visiting Fellowship at Harvard University. He previ-

ously served as Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, as well as interim president, at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania. Dr. Way has over 30 years of experience as a faculty member and administrator in higher education including at University of Cincinnati and University of Alabama at Birmingham. He and his wife, Cheryl, have been active in becoming acquainted with the University faculty, staff, and students since arriving on campus in August 2019. We wish them a long tenure at Athens State.

Dynetics Donation Promotes Programming



Last May, Athens State University's College of Business became the recipient of \$15,000 from Dynetics. The money is to be used toward its under-

graduate and graduate-level Logistics and Supply Chain Management programs. In addition, Dynetics will offer one paid internship to an Athens State student each year.

The University was chosen, in part, due to the rising demand for graduates in the fields of cybersecurity and logistics and supply chain management in the Huntsville area.

"The business environment continues to grow, and there is a need for logistics and supply chain management specialists. Athens State is preparing their students for those future careers, and Dynetics is definitely looking to fill positions such as these soon," stated Ronnie Chronister, Dynetics senior vice president of contracts and Athens State University Board of Trustees Chairman.

College of Business Program Changes

The College of Business has received approval for some exciting program changes. On September 13, 2019, the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) approved changing the name Information Assurance to Management of Cybersecurity Operations. In addition, a new certificate in Cybersecurity Operations began accepting students in Fall 2019. This is an important step in making the major more marketable and identifiable to the general public and potential students.

Also implemented in Fall 2019 was

a new one-year track for completing a Masters in Global Logistics and Supply Chain Management. There are 30 semester hours (10 courses) in the program. When the Masters was first introduced, the courses were taught in a cohort format that started once every academic year in the fall semester. The courses were spread out over five semesters. With the new track, the same courses can be completed in three semesters. This is accomplished by offering most of the courses in a half-term option allowing students to complete four courses in the time it takes students in the traditional

cohort to complete two courses. Approximately 15 students have enrolled in this track and should receive their degrees following the summer 2020 semester.

These two changes are great examples of how Athens State University and the College of Business are working to offer relevant programs in a timely manner. The College of Business is committed to looking for more ways to help students prepare for the local and national job markets. More new programs are being developed for the 2020-2021 academic year, so stay tuned!

During the 2019-2020 academic year, Athens State University was notified of its ranking in several categories, some of which involved programs in the College of Business. In November, Athens State was ranked #19 in the nation by SR Education Group in their 2019 Most Affordable Online Colleges for Accounting. In May, Athens State University's online Bachelor in Human Resource Management degree program was ranked #7 in the nation by TheBestSchools.org for its quality and types

Where Do We Rank?

of courses offered. The same organization ranked the University's online Supply Chain Management degree program #6 which was an upward movement of 6 spots from the previous year.

While rankings are somewhat misleading, it is good to know that Athens State University is getting noticed nationally for the quality we have come to expect from all our programs. It is up to all of us to continue to build upon that solid reputation.



WE'RE NUMBER ONE!



In March 2019, human resource majors from Athens State University won 1st place at the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) Alabama/Mississippi HR Case Competition held at the University of

Alabama. Auburn University placed 2nd in the competition which included teams from the University of Alabama, Auburn University-Montgomery, Columbia Southern University, Mississippi State University, and the University of West Alabama.

During the case competition, teams must analyze and solve a business case by preparing a 15-minute oral presentation that provides their consultative recommendations. Presentation rounds are judged on site by a panel of certified SHRM professional members and accomplished HR practitioners.

"SHRM's Statewide Case Competitions offer a unique opportunity to apply in-class learning to real-world HR scenarios and showcase their knowledge to seasoned HR practitioners," said Susan Post, SHRM-SCP, east divisional director at SHRM. Members of the Athens State team were Jeremy Boles (Team Captain and Athens State SHRM Student Chapter President), Alethia Jordan, Brittany Grant, and Diana Woodward. The team was mentored by Dr. Gary Huckaby, HR Assistant Professor and Athens State University Student SHRM Chapter Advisor.

Delta Mu Delta Inducts New Members

The Spring Induction Ceremony of Athens State University's Alpha Iota Chapter of the Delta Mu Delta Honor Society was held April 7, 2019 in McCandless Hall. The Chapter inducted 58 new student members, including 10 graduate students and two honorary members (Darren Waldrep and Claude Willis). Delta Mu Delta is an international honor society reserved for College of Business students who rank among the top 20% of their undergraduate junior-level and senior-level classes and graduate-level classes.

Awards and scholarships presented this year were as follows:

Excellence in Teaching Award—Dr. Glynice Crow; DMD Medallion Award—Rylan Pendleton; Outstanding Service Awards—Dr. Kim Roberts and Molly Pepper; Robert L. and Mildred S. McCall Scholarship—

Gwendolyn Henry; and Leslie Essary Distinguished Scholarship—Alethia Jordan. The chapter was also the recipient of the 2018 Star Chapter Award.



IMA Accounting Club Awarded for Excellence

In November 2018, members of the Athens State University Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Student Chapter Accounting Club attended a Student Leadership Conference in St. Louis, Missouri. At the conference, they were awarded the IMA Award of Excellence in Gold and the Award of Excellence—

Outstanding Student Chapter, for which they received a monetary award of \$1,000. While at the conference, the chapter won a t-shirt design contest for which they received a second monetary gift of \$500. Students attending the conference were accompanied by faculty advisors Diann Hammon and Emily Corzine.



Student Groups Making an Impact



on campus and in the community. The Association for Operations and Supply Chain Management (APICS) student chapter, through a variety of fundraisers, collected enough money to donate \$200 to the Limestone County Council on Aging to be used toward Meals on Wheels. Delta Mu Delta Alpha Iota Chapter and Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Accounting Club teamed up to donate a variety of items to the Senior Rehab and Recovery Center at Limestone Health Facility in Athens. These two groups coordinate an annual

Athens State University's College of Business has some active student groups that are making an impact both

canned food drive with donations going to Limestone County Churches Involved (LCCI), a local food bank.

On campus, The Career Development Center, Delta Mu Delta, Kappa Delta Pi, and SHRM hosted a Networking Workshop to provide valuable tips on how to prepare for, dress for, and speak at networking events. The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronauts sponsored a Student Research Mini-Symposium on April 17, 2019 to promote student research projects being carried out on campus. Many other opportunities occur every year through the hard work and generosity of these and other organizations.



Gone But Not Forgotten



Dr. Glynice Crow retired from Athens State University on August 1 after 29 years of full-time employment in

higher education. She came to Athens State from Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, Alabama where she taught a variety of subjects. At Athens State she mainly taught statistics courses and helped oversee the statistics lab on campus.

Although, Dr. Crow has officially retired, she is now participating in the new Athens State University Scholarship in Retirement program. Athens State University faculty who are near retirement may request an opportunity to be employed on a temporary basis for a minimum of 9 months for the purpose of establishing an endowment fund to support the mission of the University. Dr. Crow is the first retired faculty from the College of Business to participate in this program. This has allowed her to continue teaching statistics classes for both the Fall 2019 and

Spring 2020 semesters.

Dr. Crow writes, "If you're not familiar with the policy, I encourage each of you to review it. I believe this will provide wonderful opportunities for our students."

We wish Dr. Crow much enjoyment in her retirement, but we are thankful that she was willing to give something more of herself to the College of Business before her complete departure. She will be greatly missed!

Recognizing Faculty Accomplishments



Jeff Johnson— Recognized for 15 years of service to Athens State University at the Fall 2019 In-service

held in McCandless Auditorium. Professor Johnson is currently teaching courses in economics.

Dr. LaDoris Baugh— Recognized for 25 years of service to Athens State University at the Fall 2019 In-service held in McCandless Auditorium. Dr. Baugh is a Department Chair and teaches courses in Financial Management and Personal Finance.



Congratulations to Dr. Kim Roberts! She received the 2019 Teaching Excellence Award. This award recognizes a full-time faculty member who is distinguished by truly outstanding performance in the classroom. She began working at Athens State in 2012 as an assistant professor and has recently been promoted to associate professor. She holds a BS in Chemical Engineering, an MBA, and a PhD in Instructional Leadership.

Athens State University Has a New Honor Society

In Fall 2019, Athens State University started a new chapter of The National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS). The advisors for the chapter are Dr. John Berzett and Professor John Moore of the College of Business and Richard Collie, Coordinator for Student Inclusion Initiatives. NSLS is the nation's largest leadership honor society. Students are selected by their college for membership based on either academic standing or leadership potential. Students invited to their school's chapter have earned distinction with their nomination, but must complete the leadership program requirements to achieve induction. In order to become an inducted member, students must attend an orientation, a leader-

ship training day, three speaker broadcast events, and three success networking team meetings. Once these steps are complete, the student is invited to an induction ceremony.

Is NSLS worth it? The NSLS provides real benefits to help members on their own success journey. These include opportunities for all members and exclusive benefits for those who achieve induction. These benefits include scholarships and awards, a job bank, partner discounts and benefits, speaker broadcasts, success coaches, and more. According to the NSLS website, 85% of NSLS members transitioning into careers landed the job of their choice upon graduating and nearly 80%

of those students attributed their success to the NSLS's program.

At the current count, Athens State University has 188 students who have paid membership and are in the portal to achieve further steps toward post membership. This is a great start to what we hope to be a thriving new chapter at Athens State.



Let's Go on a Field Trip



Field trips are not just for elementary school. They have always been considered a fun, but educational extension to the classroom experience. Several instructors and club advisors in the College of Business are aware of their importance in the college curriculum.

Last spring, Dr. Diann Hammon accompanied accounting students from the Athens State IMA Student Chapter on

a trip to Crabtree, Rowe and Berger, PC in Huntsville. Club members were invited by the firm to come learn what a "Day in the Life" might be like for employees and partners at the firm.

Last summer, students from the Accounting Club and APICS received a tour of Deshazo's production floor and machine shop. Deshazo is one of the largest original equipment manufacturers of overhead cranes in the U.S. They utilize CAD/CAM technology to feed state of the art machine tools with design data and 3D modeling to optimize engineering design.

These are just two examples of local trips and does not take into account travel to state and national conferences by several of our student organizations. The hope is that students who take the time to participate in these trips, will find real value and open themselves to a myriad of career opportunities awaiting them after graduation.



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Sanders Hall, College of Business

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Mail your contribution to: College of Business, ATTN: Dr. Kim LaFavor,
Dean, College of Business, Athens State University, 300 North Beaty
Street, Athens, Alabama 35611

What's In a Name?

Since 2014, the College of Business has had a major in Information Assurance Management. Now, the name will be changing to Cybersecurity Operations, a far more recognizable term in today's society. Who hasn't seen commercials on television touting the best tools to combat cyber-criminals?

Athens State University is committed to keeping its curriculum relevant. In addition to the change in nomenclature, faculty from both the College of Business and Arts and Sciences are staying connected locally with Huntsville's Cybersecurity Summit.

National Cyber Summit is the nation's most innovative cyber security-technology event, offering unique educational, collaborative and workforce development oppor-

tunities for industry visionaries and rising leaders. Its core focus is on two things: accessibility and connectivity. Held in Huntsville, Alabama, one of the nation's largest technological hubs, the Summit attracts both government and commercial participants. Long known as the home to Department of Defense organizations and civilian departments and agencies including DHS, NIST, NASA, TVA, NSA and DOE, Huntsville also has many other industries represented, including healthcare, automotive and energy industries, academia, genetic research and high technology. Athens State University is proud to be one of the sponsors.

In addition to our sponsorship of the Summit, Dr. Kim LaFavor, Dean of the College of Business,

serves on the National Cyber Summit Foundation Board, and Professor Darren Waldrep on the Cyber Huntsville Board. By staying involved in these organizations, Athens State University can place themselves on the leading edge of cybersecurity and provide our students with the best education possible. This will mean that Athens State University can build a name for itself as a leader in Cybersecurity education. So again I ask, what's in a name?

Athens State University, as an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution, complies with all applicable federal and state laws regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action. Athens State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, disability, religion, genetic information, or veteran status in employment, or admissions to or participation in educational programs and activities. Inquiries or concerns may be addressed to the Office of the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Support Services, 300 N. Beaty Street, Athens, AL 35611, 256-233-8175.