SU Research Soars

This spring, SU students teamed with NASA and Old Dominion University in a project they hope will deepen understanding of how cancer spreads and if such movement might be arrested.

Under the guidance of Dr. Gene Williams of SU’s Biology Department, students eagerly watched as their groundbreaking experiment, testing the effects of microgravity on cancer metastasis, soared 76 miles into space during the University’s first rocket launch at Wallops Space Flight Facility, VA. The flight and retrieval went beautifully, the payload landing in the Atlantic Ocean 20 minutes from the recovery vessel. An evaluation of the experiment is ongoing. The next launch is planned for 2006.

SU Excellence

When it comes to excellent faculty and staff, Salisbury University is tops in the University System of Maryland. The Board of Regents made only six staff awards this year for all 13 institutions in the statewide System. SU’s staff honorees represented half of the System total.

The awards, recognizing excellence in contributions to the University and community, went to SU’s Ruth Baker, managing director of the Perdue School of Business’s BEACON (Business, Economic And Community Outreach Network); Dawn Johnson, executive administrative assistant in the Henson School of Science and Technology; and Vaughn P. White, director of multiethnic/international student services in the Student Affairs Division.

In addition, Dr. Clara Small of the History Department earned a USM Regents Faculty Award for her tireless service to the University and community.

President Among Top 100 Women

SU’s President Janet Dudley-Eshbach joins a distinguished class of leaders with the announcement of her selection as one of Maryland’s Top 100 Women. The honor, bestowed by The Daily Record, a business-based newspaper in Baltimore, recognizes the outstanding achievements of professional women who reside or work in the state. The Maryland House of Delegates and the Maryland Senate congratulated the president on her selection, also noting her leadership in the community and commitment to Maryland’s youth.
Three Named Distinguished Faculty

The 2005 SU Distinguished Faculty Awards go to Dr. Michael Lewis of history, Dr. Lisa Seldomridge (right) of nursing and Dr. Kathleen Shannon of mathematics and computer science.

At SU, Lewis was instrumental in founding the environmental issues major, which he directs. He also developed seven new courses, including one which resulted in a book of student essays on environmental history. An essay he wrote about this course has been nominated for a prize by the American History Association Teaching Division.

The chair of SU's Nursing Department from 1996-2002, Seldomridge led the Nursing Program in making great strides that have been felt throughout the region. In streamlining the Second-degree Nursing Program from five semesters to three, she made the degree accessible to many more students.

Shannon is chair of the Mathematics and Computer Science Department, of which she has been a member since 1989. The recipient of two National Science Foundation grants, Shannon has been instrumental in developing new courses and mathematics laboratory techniques for her department.

On the SU Stage

For over 70 years, SU theatre has been a hub of live theatre on the peninsula and has now gained national recognition through the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Last spring, the Bobbi Biron Theatre Program was honored by the selection of three actors, Christopher Bramer, Christopher Wallace and Katie Kadell, for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarships for their performances in Merchant of Venice. Also nominated, for her work as stage manager of the Black Box production was Jodi Fahey.

The spring 2006 season looks to be another triumph, beginning with the Children's Theatre Ensemble annual production. CTE presents an original script created by the Children's Theatre class. Performances are 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. February 3-5.

Performances will shift to Holloway Hall Auditorium for the season's fairy tale musical comedy, Once Upon a Mattress. This tuneful version of "The Princess and the Pea" by Hans Christian Anderson will be directed by Dr. Paul Pfeiffer with musical direction by Dr. William Folger. The musical that gave Carol Burnett her career start is presented March 2-5 and 9-12 with Sunday matinees.

Sophanes, the student theatre group which was founded in 1934, produces Murder at the Howard Johnson's on April 27-30 and May 4-7 in the Black Box Theatre. Directed by theatre major Adam Adkins, this piece takes a farcical turn as murder plots backfire in this outrageous comedy.

For more information about productions and to purchase tickets contact the Theatre Box Office at 410-543-6228.

Neufeldt Leads Student Affairs Team

Dr. Ellen J. Neufeldt, SU's new vice president of student affairs, believes in building bridges: between student life and academics, between student organizations and the local community, and yes, even between her office and parents.

Forging partnerships is something she stressed at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga where she worked for the past 10 years, the last four as assistant vice chancellor for student development and dean of student life.

She has her M.A. in educational psychology and counselor education from Tennessee Technological University and her doctorate of education from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where she studied the life paths of male and female college students. At UTC she also taught graduate courses in community and career counseling as an adjunct professor.

SU 15th Fittest Campus

With athletic accomplishments including reigning NCAA Division III championship teams in field hockey and men's lacrosse, and the nationally known 100-mile Sea Gull Century bicycle ride, fitness is preeminent in the minds of many Salisbury University students.

Their exercise and training paid dividends beyond just health benefits. Men’s Fitness magazine named SU the nation's 15th fittest campus in its 2005 “America’s Fattest and Fittest Colleges” poll.

Men’s Fitness surveyed some 10,000 students from 660 colleges across the country, asking questions about personal habits, as well as campus exercise facilities. Each college was graded on categories including exercise, lifestyle choices and culture of fitness.

SU is the only university in Maryland ranked in the magazine’s top 25.