In the fall of 2012, Arkansas State University-Newport began to explore the idea of developing a new logo – a logo that was easily identifiable and one that would effectively promote all three of our campus locations. Several preliminary designs were developed before this logo was approved, finalized, and began to see limited use in 2013. As we move into 2014, the new logo has now become the standard mark for Arkansas State University-Newport, and will be used on all promotional and printed materials. The previous logo, one that served ASUN well during our first decade, will be phased out over time and through attrition.
The new year represents a unique opportunity for introspection. The past year was one where ASU-Newport evolved and changed. In addition to continuing to grow our enrollment, creating exciting programs and increasing graduation rates, ASU-Newport said goodbye to several faculty and staff including Chancellor Williams. The college also welcomed new institutional family members.

As we begin 2014, the goals for ASU-Newport remain constant. We will continue the strong legacy of quality education which has been our hallmark, as well as fostering opportunities for community partnerships that remain the cornerstones to our success. I feel great privilege to lead this amazing institution and look forward to continuing to support our mission which “is to provide integrity of programs and services, affordable lifelong learning, and enhanced quality of life in the diverse community we serve.”

Sandra Massey, Ed.D.
Chancellor
Arkansas State University - Newport
July 17, 2013 marked the completion of almost a year of construction as Arkansas State University-Newport unveiled its new Fowler Family Hospitality Services building with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on ASUN’s Jonesboro campus.

The facility is now the home to ASUN’s new Hospitality Services programs and opened its doors to the first group of students in the fall 2013 semester. Immediately successful, the program enrolled the maximum of 18 students in the first semester it was offered.

The 11,820 square-foot facility is comprised of a 3,300 square-foot state-of-the-art commercial training kitchen, 2,000 square feet of dining space, a food-service classroom, a computer lab, a chemistry/physical science lab and support space. Grounds include an outdoor dining patio, green space and parking.

Chamber Ambassadors Margaret Holloway and Lisa Graves; Steve Owens, President of the ASU Foundation; Charles Appleby, Vice Chancellor for Economic & Workforce Development; Dr. Sandra Massey, ASUN Chancellor; Chamber Ambassador Kathy Cardwell; Wallace Fowler; ASUN Chancellor Emeritus Dr. Larry Williams; City of Jonesboro representative L.M. Duncan; Jessica Wrenfrow, ASUN Instructor of Culinary Arts; Chamber representative Karen McDaniel; Jerry Bowen, representing the Military Officers Association of America; and Chamber Ambassadors Yvonne Sutton and Andrea Scott participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony at ASUN’s Jonesboro campus July 17.
A one-million dollar gift made by the Fowler family endowed the building, providing resources not only to build and equip the facility, but to help ensure quality educational opportunities for the food service industry of Northeast Arkansas. A grant from the Delta Regional Authority in excess of $98,000 helped equip the facility. In addition, general improvement funds in the amount of $300,000 received through the office of Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe provided additional resources in the construction of the facility.

Arkansas State University-Newport welcomed its first Hospitality Services students in the fall semester of 2013, offering Associate of Applied Science degrees in Culinary Services or Food Service & Management. Students can also pursue Technical Certificates in Culinary Services or Food Service & Management, as well as a Certificate of Proficiency in Hospitality Services.

“Today is certainly a significant and memorable day for ASU-Newport, and particularly our Jonesboro campus, as we open the doors to our new Fowler Family Hospitality Services building,” said then-ASUN Chancellor Dr. Larry Williams at the facility’s ribbon-cutting ceremony. “We are extremely grateful to the Fowler family, the Delta Regional Authority, Governor Mike Beebe and Senator Paul Bookout for their generosity in helping make this possible. Our new Hospitality Services programs are unique to the region and will help to fill a need in Northeast Arkansas, supplying well-trained, workforce-ready employees to the many food service industries in the area.”

Bailey Contractors of Bono was the general contractor for the facility, while Brackett-Krennerich Architects of Jonesboro served as the design team. Construction began in August 2012.
New Chancellor Named

Massey Appointed as Chancellor of ASUN

On September 17, 2013, Dr. Sandra Massey was named as the second chancellor of Arkansas State University-Newport by Arkansas State University System President Dr. Charles L. Welch.

Massey succeeded Dr. Larry Williams, who retired as Chancellor in August, and she previously served as the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at ASU-Newport after being appointed to the position in 2011. The appointment followed a three-month search process that attracted 46 applicants for the position.

“We had a strong group of quality candidates, and Dr. Massey stood out because of her leadership experience in higher education,” Welch said. “The fact that she’s already well acquainted with the ASU-Newport campuses and has proven herself among all of our constituencies was an added bonus. I’m confident she and her team will build on the tremendous growth of ASU-Newport.”

In her role as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at ASU-Newport, Massey served as chief academic officer, Higher Learning Commission liaison officer, and a member of the ASU-Newport Chancellor’s Executive Council.

Her accomplishments include implementing a shared leadership model within academic affairs; championing a faculty-led proposal to become a Quality Matters (QM) college and have all online courses meet selected quality criteria by 2014; and expanding short course offerings to increase student options.

“I’m honored to be entrusted with this responsibility, and I look forward to working under the visionary leadership of our ASU System President,” Massey said. “We have an outstanding team at ASU-Newport. We will continue to educate students who can improve their lives while helping our region’s businesses and industries grow.”

Prior to her time in Newport, she was the Campus Provost at the Northeast Campus of Tulsa Community College, the Dean of Student Services at Tulsa Community College and Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Oklahoma State University-Okmulgee, where she also served as Interim Dean for Student Support.

Dr. Massey enjoys time with her granddaughters, Maggie, Maybelle and Ava.
Dr. Massey has presented on a state and national level numerous times, and was the 2012 Excellence Award recipient from the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD). She also received the 2010 Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Award from the United States Department of Defense, the 2010 North Tulsa Ministerial Alliance Community Support Award and completed the 2010 Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon.

Dr. Massey is actively involved in various higher education activities including the American Association of University Women and the Arkansas Rural Nursing Education Consortium. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Newport Big Brother-Big Sister Organization and maintains memberships in the Newport Rotary Club, the Newport, Marked Tree and Jonesboro Chambers of Commerce, and Harris Hospital Healthy Woman Initiative. This past fall she was elected to the Newport Economic Development Commission and invited to serve on the Board of Directors of the Arkansas Capital Corporation Group.

She and her husband Ward have one daughter, Brittney Massey McKelroy, one son, Reese Massey and three granddaughters.
Williams Designated as Chancellor Emeritus of ASUN

During a teleconference meeting July 25, the Arkansas State University Board of Trustees approved a resolution designating Dr. Larry Williams as Chancellor Emeritus of ASU-Newport. Williams, the first Chancellor of Arkansas State University-Newport, served in the position since 2001 and retired August 31.

The resolution designated Williams as Chancellor Emeritus “in recognition of his countless contributions and in deep gratitude for his legacy of wise and generous counsel and untiring efforts on behalf of the university, its students, faculty, staff and friends.”

It was also announced that the Student/Community Center on ASUN’s Newport campus would be renamed in honor of Williams as the Larry N. Williams Student/Community Center.

“The title of Chancellor Emeritus is typically reserved for only those administrators who have had a lengthy and transformative term leading a higher education institution,” said Dr. Charles L. Welch, Arkansas State University System President. “Considering that, it seems that the title may have been created for someone just like Dr. Larry Williams. What Larry has been able to accomplish at ASU-Newport is nothing short of miraculous, and he is certainly deserving of all positive recognition he receives. Everyone in the ASU System is so appreciative of the tremendous impact Larry and Amy (Blackburn, spouse) have had on the campus, our students, and the communities we serve. He leaves a lasting legacy at ASU that will be felt for many years to come. This recognition was an easy decision, and is just one small way we can thank Larry Williams for his exceptional tenure.”

Appleby Named Vice Chancellor of ASUN’s Jonesboro Campus

Arkansas State University-Newport announced in July the appointment of Charles Appleby as the new Vice Chancellor for ASUN’s Jonesboro campus. Appleby came to ASUN from Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions, where he served as the Manager of Client Services, providing solutions to critical business needs of manufacturers.

Prior to his time at Arkansas Manufacturing Solutions, Appleby worked for eight years in the ASU system, serving as the Director of Professional and Workforce Development for Arkansas State University’s Delta Center for Economic Development from 2002-2010. Before that, he worked in the private industry sector in manufacturing, sales leadership and consulting.

Appleby earned a Bachelor of Science in Education from Trevecca Nazarene University and earned a Masters of Business Administration from Arkansas State University.

Appleby replaced former Vice Chancellor Linda Sharp, who retired during the summer of 2013 after almost 29 years of service on ASUN’s Jonesboro campus.

The Vice Chancellor for ASUN’s Jonesboro Campus is responsible for the development, coordination and implementation of the institution’s instructional programs. The Vice Chancellor is also responsible for the budget administration of all programs and personnel in the academic divisions on the ASUN Jonesboro Campus.
Arkansas State University-Newport’s Phi Theta Kappa officers for the 2013-14 school year are Jhonny Martinez of Augusta (center) who was elected to serve as President, Logan Riley of Tuckerman (left) who was elected Vice President, and Kaitlyn Riggin of Weiner (right), who was elected as Secretary. Phi Theta Kappa serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership and service programming.

Arkansas State University-Newport’s 2013-14 Student Government Association officers are (back row, from left): Amber Grady, SGA Advisor; Tristan Davis, Historian; Matthew Rice, Reporter; Marquelle Killingsworth, Treasurer; Dr. Sandra Massey, ASUN Chancellor. (front row, from left): Jessica Gibson, Secretary; Logan Riley, Vice President; Kaitlyn Riggin, President.

Selected to serve as Student Ambassadors at ASUN for the 2013-14 school year are (front row, from left): Alexis Roberson, Alyson Mueller and Cassandra Simpson. (Back row, from left): Steven Scudder, Samantha Dunavion and David Sharp.

The 2013-14 Practical Nursing Officers are (from left to right, sitting:) Stephanie Cox, Treasurer; Courtney Robinson, President; Amanda McGhee, Reporter. (From left to right, standing:) Katherine Hydrick, Vice President; Jean Simpson, Secretary.

The ASUN Student Veterans Organization officers for the 2013-14 school year are, from left: Jared Williamson, Reporter; Sara Burgess, Secretary/Treasurer; Matthew Rice, President; Nathan Stone, Vice President.
ASUN Sets All-Time Enrollment Records

Arkansas State University-Newport announced that its enrollment of 2,213 for the Spring 2013 semester represented a new high-enrollment mark for the two-year college.

The record enrollment surpassed the previous high of 2,043 set during the Fall 2012 semester.

“Obviously, we are very pleased with our enrollment numbers for the Spring 2013 semester,” said then-ASUN Chancellor Dr. Larry Williams. “Traditionally, our higher enrollment numbers have come during the fall terms, so raising the bar higher during the spring term is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and faculty, and to the quality and quantity of programs offered here at ASU-Newport.”

“Much of our growth can be attributed to an emphasis by all of our staff and faculty on student retention, and for their emphasis on utilizing the PACE Grant to enhance student success,” Williams continued.

The PACE Grant was awarded by the U.S. Dept. of Labor to accelerate certification and degree programs by restructuring higher education, enabling students to meet the needs of specifically targeted industries of Advanced Manufacturing and Healthcare. PACE is made up of a consortium of all 22 two-year colleges in the state of Arkansas.

“The faculty and staff at Arkansas State University-Newport continually strive to develop programs of study that enable our students to succeed in the workforce,” added Williams.

Following the record enrollment during the Spring 2013 term, Arkansas State University-Newport set a fall semester enrollment record with 2,079 students in the Fall 2013 semester. That eclipsed an enrollment record of 2,043, set during the fall of 2012.

ASUN Hosts Career Camps

Over 75 students from eight Northeast Arkansas high schools were on the Arkansas State University-Newport campus April 11 as ASUN hosted the first of three Career Cluster Mini Camps.

The camps gave high school students the opportunity to explore potential career paths through hands-on demonstrations and activities. While on campus, students had the opportunity to interact with instructors, while learning the job qualifications and skills necessary to land top in-demand jobs.

Students rotated among three “Breakout Sessions” throughout the course of the day, with the opportunity to learn about ASUN programs including Liberal Arts, Teacher Education, Nursing, Business, Surgical Technology, Renewable Energy and High Voltage Lineman Technology.

Following a morning welcome session hosted by the staff of ASUN, students from Newport, Tuckerman, Westside, Trumann, Weiner, Marked Tree, Harrisburg and East Poinsett County were divided into groups for the “Breakout Sessions.” The students were also treated to lunch on the ASUN campus, with many door prizes given away during the mealtime.

Other Career Mini Camps were also hosted by ASUN on the Jonesboro and Marked Tree campuses.
ASUN Holds Inaugural Discovery College

Learning and fun went hand-in-hand during the summer at Arkansas State University-Newport’s first-ever Discovery College. Running from July 8-12, Discovery College was designed for students entering grades 4-6.

Students attending Discovery College were exposed to a wide variety of subjects including Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, Health Professions and the Arts.

In the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math sessions of Discovery College, students examined several different types of renewable energy and performed hands-on activities in biofuels and solar energy technology. They also discovered that diving deep into the DNA of an organism has never been easier, learning a super-cool technique for separating the genetic material of a strawberry. Students had the chance to perform hands-on DNA extractions, used their reasoning skills to “blow up a whale” on a huge scale and used design software to explore their creative side by designing ID tags.

In the Health Professions sessions, students discovered the benefits of a lifestyle that promotes health and wellness. Students learned the effects of nutrition, exercise, and healthy life choices through a variety of activities presented by health care professionals.

In the Arts sessions of Discovery College, students embarked on an adventurous trek into the world of theater, complete with a discussion of the origins and modern applications of this unique form of communication; learned a bit of Spanish, with a brief immersion into the rich and diverse culture of this region; enjoyed a discussion of the past, as well as its influence on the future and delved into the ever present topic of diversity, and its applications for twenty-first century citizens.

Seventeen students attended the inaugural Arkansas State University-Newport Discovery College during the summer of 2013, studying topics ranging from Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, Health Professions and the Arts. The students attended enriched learning sessions Monday through Thursday, and Discovery College wrapped up Friday with a cookout and an opportunity for the students to show off their group artwork project.

Those students were (from left): Dagan Pretty, Sara Patsey, student assistant Chris Cross, Sophie Falwell, Savannah Rushing, Magan Underwood, Madison Smith, Will Wagner, Abbe Wagster, Olivia French, Taylor Thompson, Harrison Smith, student assistant Katllyn Snetzer, Jairus Dean, and Nicholas Sides.

Dr. Charles Davis Presents Research at AATYC

Dr. Charles Davis, Assistant Professor of Life Science at ASU-Newport, presented his findings on research done with Xenopus, the African clawed frogs at the AATYC convention in October.

Davis worked with the idea that some of the long-term damage that humans suffering from diabetes might be related to blood flow changes observed in the frogs. He was interested in the dynamics of circulation in the very small blood vessels (capillaries) in the foot of Xenopus, following injection of sugar dissolved in water into the calf of the animal that mimicked low, normal, and very high blood sugar, as you might see in diabetics.

Though he was able to find changes in blood flow through the foot capillaries, it was not consistent with his hypothesis that blood flow changes might reflect the type of damage seen in diabetes. Most often, blood flow stopped, then started again after a period of time. His next step is to try and see if the start time to normal flow is related to sugar levels.

Davis did the study with a unique collaboration between ASUN and National Park Community College in Hot Springs, where Davis owns a summer home. NPCC supplied solutions and equipment for use during the work, while ASUN financed the research.
The Arkansas State University-Newport Surgical Technology program received accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs during the summer of 2013.

During ASUN’s accrediting process, the CAAHEP assessed the quality of the school’s Surgical Technology Program, measuring it against accepted quality standards. The accreditation process is designed to evaluate and ensure that these standards are met. These standards are developed primarily by professionals involved in the surgical field to ensure that educational institutions are preparing competent entry-level healthcare professionals. ASUN’s accreditation by CAAHEP assures students, potential employers and the public that ASUN is providing the educational foundation necessary for its students to begin successful careers in Surgical Technology.

“ASU-Newport’s accreditation by CAAHEP is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both its students and its staff,” said Christopher Madden, Director of Surgical Technology at ASUN. “Our students and potential students can be assured that they are receiving a quality education at ASUN, and potential employers of our students can be assured that graduates from our program are fully trained to meet the needs of the profession. Students from CAAHEP-accredited programs are generally the most in-demand graduates across the country.”

To receive accreditation by CAAHEP, institutions submit a self-study that analyzes how well that program adheres to the standards set forth by CAAHEP. A site review is then conducted, where a team of reviewers determines how well the self-study reflects the status of the program. The Surgical Technology committee on accreditation then reviews the reports from the site reviews and develops a recommendation, which is sent to the CAAHEP Board of Directors for final action.

ASUN Surgical Technology Program Receives Accreditation From CAAHEP

ASUN students Kari Cooper (Jonesboro) and Kourtnee Pennington (McCrory), Dr. Sandra Massey, ASUN student Jeremy Wortham (Jonesboro) Director of Surgical Technology Christopher Madden and ASUN student Whitney Jackson (Marked Tree) received the CAAHEP accreditation certificate in the ASUN surgical technology lab.

ASUN Student Rachel Clements Finishes Third Nationally at SkillsUSA

Rachel Clements, an ASU-Newport cosmetology student from Marion, finished third nationally in the annual National Leadership and Skills Conference and SkillsUSA Championships held during the summer of 2013 in Kansas City, Mo.

The competition consisted of written, oral and practical skills competition in the cosmetology division. After taking top honors at the Arkansas SkillsUSA competition in Hot Springs, Clements then advanced to the national competition level in Kansas City.

Clements competed under the direction of Melinda Odom, ASUN Instructor of Cosmetology.

“Ms. Odom really helped me,” said Clements. “She gave me guidance and the discipline to go and win. I am very grateful to her and to ASU-Newport for the opportunity to compete. It has really helped prepare me for my state boards and for my future.”

The SkillsUSA Championships are considered the largest single day of corporate volunteerism in America, and valued at $36 million in industry support of donated time, equipment, cash and material. All contests are run and judged by industry leaders using industry standards for employment. Over 1,100 industry judges participated this year, with more than 6,000 students from every state and three territories competing in 98 contests in technical, skilled, health and service occupations.
Honors & Awards

Four From ASUN Honored at AATYC Conference

Two Arkansas State University-Newport employees, one ASUN student and one alumnus were honored for outstanding performance Oct. 16-17 at the Arkansas Association of Two Year Colleges Conference in Hot Springs. LaManda Bowlin, a student on ASUN’s Marked Tree campus, was honored as the school’s Academic All-Star, Tuckerman High School principal Michael Holland was honored as ASUN’s Outstanding Alumni, Career Pathways Director Kimberly Long was named ASUN’s Outstanding Staff Member and Ken Beach, Instructor of Welding, was named as the school’s Outstanding Faculty Member. Long and Beach were recognized at the AATYC Awards Dinner on the first night of the conference, while Holland and Bowlin were honored at the Academic All-Star Brunch on the second day of the conference.

LaManda Bowlin

The mother of three children, Bowlin can remember saying that she must be crazy to start college at age 30. But now she says it was the “beginning of a life-changing experience.” Bowlin has not only excelled in the classroom, but has taken personal time and effort to tutor other students. Her teachers say she has been an extra teacher in the classroom and an enormous help. She has volunteered for events on campus and was chosen by the Career Pathways staff to represent her class in a Career/Fashion Day, which led to an immediate interview and subsequent job offer. Upon completion of a business degree, she plans to continue her education toward a bachelors degree that she can use in a personal business, or possibly teach.

Michael Holland

Holland is a 1998 graduate of ASU-Newport who then obtained a Bachelor of Education from ASU and a Master of Education from Harding University. Holland taught and coached at Brinkley High School and also taught, coached, and served as athletic director at Scranton High School. He had an opportunity to return to his high school alma mater in 2011 and now serves as the principal and athletic director at Tuckerman High School in Jackson County. In addition, Holland has served in the Arkansas Army National Guard. He is also involved in the community through volunteering with the summer youth program, the church youth group, and the Every Child is Ours organization. He received many awards while in coaching over the years but said that the best recognition is seeing a smile on a student’s face.

Kimberly Long

Long began her career with ASUN as an ADWIRED counselor in 2009, later moving to the position of Career Pathways Director. She embodies a style of professionalism, with high expectations from herself and her staff. She is well respected on campus by her peers and consistently assists students in achieving their educational goals. “We should meet students where they are in their education; yet through education and training, we can take them where they never imagined,” said Long. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering her time at ASUN and within the Newport community.

Ken Beach

Beach is an Instructor of Welding at ASU Newport’s Jonesboro Campus. His extensive knowledge and steadfast dedication have helped to grow and expand ASUN’s Welding program into a first-class program. He also instituted a variety of technological enhancements incorporating automation and robotics. Best known for his practical approach to teaching and to improving student lives, Beach states, “When I have been effective as a teacher, my students are secure in their understanding of the welding process and working environment in which it is used. They will be knowledgeable, employable, and prepared to be leaders in their field.”
Employees recognized for five years of service by ASUN Chancellor Dr. Sandra Massey (back row, left) included (front row, from left) Monika Phillips, Tina Fuentes and Betsy Ashcraft. (back row, from left) Martha Taussig, Amber Grady, Wanda Steen and Donna Taylor.

Employees recognized for 10 years of service by Dr. Sandra Massey (left) included Johnny Powell, Debbie Snetzer and Billy Houchin.

Employees recognized for 15 years of service by Dr. Sandra Massey (right) included Jeff Bookout and Dr. Allen Mooneyhan.

Recognized for 20 years of service by Dr. Sandra Massey (left) was Shirley Kausler.

Employees recognized for 25 years of service by Dr. Sandra Massey (left) included Linda Duncan, Melinda Odom, Linda Lee and Stacey Crotts.
ASU-Newport Receives Funding for Allied Health Lab Improvements

After receiving a $75,000 Arkansas General Improvement Funds grant from the White River Planning and Development District in November, Arkansas State University-Newport will purchase a new human simulator for its Nursing and Allied Health learning lab on the Newport campus.

The state-of-the-art simulator, a full-body, high fidelity adult mannequin birthing patient, will be used to give ASUN’s students a safe and realistic clinical obstetrics learning simulation. The simulator further improves ASUN’s Nursing and Allied Health learning lab, already considered one of the finest in the area. The lab currently features a fully functional operating room that could actually be sterilized and used as a working surgery facility in the event of a national emergency or natural disaster.

Arkansas State University-Newport’s Allied Health department offers programs of study for practical nursing, registered nursing, certified nursing assistant and surgical technology on its Newport campus, practical nursing and phlebotomy on its Jonesboro campus and practical nursing on its Marks Tree campus.

ASU-Newport applied for the funds with the support of Mr. Van Thomas, Executive Director of White River Planning & Development District and District 47 State Representative Jody Dickinson.

“We are extremely proud of our nursing programs and all of our allied health programs,” said Nancy Weaver, Director of Nursing on ASUN’s Newport Campus. “We are very grateful to Mr. Thomas, Representative Dickinson and the White River Planning and Development District for their assistance. Their support enables us to enhance the learning experience for our allied health students, which in turn, makes them more attractive on the job market.”

ASUN’s Mooneyhan Named ArkAHPERD Higher Educator of the Year

Dr. Allen Mooneyhan, Division Chair and Assistant Professor of Physical Education at Arkansas State University-Newport, was named Higher Educator of the Year by the Arkansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

The award was presented in November at the ArkAHPERD convention in Little Rock. To be eligible for the award, individuals must have served in the profession for at least three years, be employed by a institution of higher education in the state of Arkansas and be of high moral character and personal integrity, who by their leadership has made outstanding and noteworthy contributions to the advancement of teaching, research or service in the state of Arkansas.

“We are extremely proud of Dr. Mooneyhan and his accomplishments, and he is certainly deserving of this award,” said ASUN Chancellor Dr. Sandra Massey. “He is highly respected by both his peers and our students here at ASU-Newport, and we all congratulate him on this honor.”
JENNIFER BALLARD serves as a PortFest Director for the annual summer festival in Jackson County. She also serves as President of the Iron Mountain Regional Arts Council.

JAYNE BLACK was recognized for excellence in higher education at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development convention in Austin, Texas.

ASHLEY BUCHMAN earned her Doctorate in Education in December.

LARISSA CLARK was certified as a trainer in the Quality Matters Program, which is a nationally-recognized, faculty-centered peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components.

MARK CONSTANT was recognized for excellence in higher education at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development convention in Austin, Texas.

JERRY DUNNING attained his HVAC/R Preventive Maintenance Technician certification.

KEN BEACH was selected to represent ASUN as the Outstanding Faculty Member at the 2013 AATYC Conference in Hot Springs. He also was awarded his Bachelor of Applied Science degree in May.

ZANDRA BROCKWAY served on a task force that helped ASUN become one of seven colleges that were selected to receive the AATYC Faculty Inquiry Grant. The group’s focus was on the affective domain and how it contributes to success and completion rates.

JOE CAMPBELL was a recipient of the 2013 John and Sueanne Roueche Excellence Award, which celebrates outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff.

BRANDON COE earned his Specialist in Community College Teaching in December.

CHERYL CROSS serves on the board of the W.A. Billingsley Memorial Library.

AMBER GRADY served as the Arkansas Collegiate Drug Education Committee Community Outreach Coordinator in 2012-2013, she also received a scholarship to attend the annual Phi Theta Kappa convention in San Jose, Calif., and presented on Student Engagement Through Co-Curricular Involvement at the AATYC Poster Session.
AMBER HENDRICKS served on a task force that helped ASUN become one of seven colleges that were selected to receive the AATYC Faculty Inquiry Grant. The group’s focus was on the affective domain and how it contributes to success and completion rates.

KIMBERLY LONG was selected to represent ASUN as the Outstanding Staff Member at the 2013 AATYC Conference in Hot Springs. She also serves on the White River Area Agency on Aging Council.

CHRISTY MANN, at the request of LibAnswers software company, presented virtually to over 800 colleges and universities worldwide about how she transformed traditional library use software into a campus-wide help desk.

STACY MOONEYHAN served on a task force that helped ASUN become one of seven colleges that were selected to receive the AATYC Faculty Inquiry Grant. The group’s focus was on the affective domain and how it contributes to success and completion rates.

JACK OSIER was recognized for excellence in higher education at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development convention in Austin, Texas.

MONIKA PHILLIPS earned a Certificate of Completion from the Federal Grants Management Conference in May.

JENNIFER LOFTIN earned a Certificate of Completion from the Federal Grants Management Conference in May.

MELISSA CHANCE was recognized for excellence in higher education at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development convention in Austin, Texas. Chance was also certified as a trainer in the Quality Matters Program, which is a nationally-recognized, faculty-centered peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components.

SARA MICHAEL earned her Professional in Human Resources certification in May.

CHRIS NELSON served as a trainer and grader for the National Guard Expert Infantryman badge competition.

EMILY PASSMORE served on a task force that helped ASUN become one of seven colleges that were selected to receive the AATYC Faculty Inquiry Grant. The group’s focus was on the affective domain and how it contributes to success and completion rates.

VAN PROVENCE served as a Depot Days Director for the annual music festival in Newport and was also selected to serve as the media room coordinator at the 2013 Sun Belt Conference Basketball Championships in Hot Springs. He also serves on the board of the Iron Mountain Regional Arts Council.
Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

STEPHANIE TURNER was certified as a trainer in the Quality Matters Program, which is a nationally-recognized, faculty-centered peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components.

IKE WHEELER was a recipient of the 2013 John and Sueanne Roueche Excellence Award, which celebrates outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff.

JESSICA WRENFROM received certification to be a ServSafe instructor and proctor.

MELISSA WATSON was recognized for excellence in higher education at the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development convention in Austin, Texas.

AMANDA WHITE was certified as a trainer in the Quality Matters Program, which is a nationally-recognized, faculty-centered peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components.

RACHEL ZAIDEMAN served on a task force that helped ASUN become one of seven colleges that were selected to receive the AATYC Faculty Inquiry Grant. The group’s focus was on the affective domain and how it contributes to success and completion rates.

ASUN Now Connected to ARE-ON Network

Arkansas State University-Newport saw significant improvement in the speed and bandwidth of its on-campus internet service in 2013 when the college completed its connection to the statewide ARE-ON network Oct. 3.

ARE-ON (Arkansas Research and Education Optical Network) is an economic development initiative represented by a high-speed fiber-based optical network wholly owned and operated by the Arkansas higher education community.

Utilizing the higher speed of the new connection, ASUN students are now able to enroll in distance education courses in collaboration with the state’s four-year universities, use fiber-grade Internet connections at computers on campus, take or teach online courses and join in research with other students and teachers across the state.

A three-year project, Arkansas State University-Newport saw its bandwidth increase from 12 megabytes per second to 100 megabytes per second when the connection was made. This increase in speed enables users to take advantage of technological capabilities that were not available in the past, such as virtual learning environments that demonstrate real-world experiences in science, health care, performing arts, technical programs and more. The network will also be a shared repository for faculty research, instructional materials, lecture capture and more.

First envisioned in in 2010, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences was awarded $102 million by the National Telecommunications Information Administration within the Department of Commerce to support a statewide $128 million broadband infrastructure that will serve community institutions across Arkansas. Arkansas two-year college students across the state will benefit greatly from the grant. The project, led by Arkansas e-Link, expands the existing ARE-ON high-speed broadband network to the public two-year colleges in the state, and is expected to be completed statewide before the end of 2013.
In an ongoing effort to promote the arts in Jackson County, Arkansas State University-Newport presents its Patron Series and its Concert/Lecture Series each year. With performances taking place in our beautiful 600-seat Center for the Arts, the finest in live entertainment is brought to Jackson County on a regular basis.

Three Patron Series performances graced the stage of the ASUN Center for the Arts during the 2013 calendar year. A sellout crowd greeted Oscar-winner B.J. Thomas for a February performance that left the audience wanting more. Thomas performed all of his signature hits, including the Academy Award-winning “Raindrops Keep Fallin’ On My Head.”

The Patron Series resumed in the fall with the Broadway musical Ring of Fire, which paid tribute to the life and career of Johnny Cash. Considered one of the best jukebox musicals of our time, Ring of Fire featured more than 35 hits spanning Cash’s career.

The Patron Series wrapped up in December with another spectacular show when multi-platinum CMA and ACM superstar Tracy Lawrence performed many of his 18 No. 1 hits at the ASUN Center for the Arts. The three-man acoustic set was tailor-made for ASUN’s facility, and the intimate setting gave the audience an up-close performance by one of country music’s greats.

The 2013 Concert/Lecture Series opened with “Ain’t I a Woman,” which celebrated the life and times of African-American historical figures Zora Neal Hurston, Sojourner Truth, Clementine Hunter and Fannie Lou Hamer with a February performance. The bluegrass quartet Posey Hill performed in April, followed by The Acousticatz, another folk/bluegrass concert band that took the stage in October. The Concert/Lecture 2013 calendar wrapped up with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra Big Band, which played to a large and enthusiastic audience in November.