



# HAVE YOU HEARD?

*an update for the division of finance & administration*

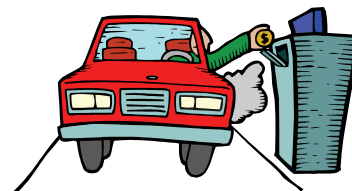
## FACT & FICTION: IS DIRECT DEPOSIT EASIER?

May is National Direct Deposit Month. How is VSU going to participate? "We have a lot planned for the month of May", said Machel Powell, payroll supervisor. "Even if you are already using direct deposit, you can still participate." Throughout May, Human Resources and Financial Services staff will wear buttons reminding you to "Simplify Your Life, Use Direct Deposit."

A questionnaire was sent through e-mail asking individuals already using direct deposit questions pertaining to this service. Questions ranged from what made individuals decide to use direct deposit to what benefits they enjoyed by using direct deposit and anything employees disliked about the service. A majority of employees felt that direct deposit was convenient and reliable. Several employees said what they enjoyed the most about direct deposit was being able to have their money first thing in the morning. Also not standing in line at the bank on a Friday or during lunch is very convenient. By filling out the questionnaire, employees were entered in a prize drawing for a chance to win \$100. Over 300 employees answered the questions. Between May 8th and May 12th, booths will be setup in various locations for anyone that has questions about direct deposit. There will be games, giveaways and enrollment information. Finally, inserts will be included with your paycheck reminding you to sign up.

If you are interested in signing up for direct deposit/cash pay, stop by the payroll department. There are many reasons to sign up for direct deposit. One is you do not have to wait in line anymore. Plus your funds are available by 8 a.m. An added bonus is your check can be deposited into several accounts. The benefits for signing up for cash pay include: no waiting in line, funds are available by 9 a.m. It can be used like a debit card and no bank account is needed. For more information, please contact the Payroll department at 333-5708.

Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006



**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**Maral Viveros**

Winner of \$100 for  
completing the direct  
deposit survey

During May, there are  
weekly chances to win \$100  
just for signing up for  
direct deposit!

## NEWS NOW

### *Human Resources Participates in Job Fairs*

In the spring of 2006, Valdosta State University made history by participating in "Job Fairs" within the Valdosta community. "We have never participated in job fairs before Dr. Denise Bogart became the Director of Human Resources," said Brenda Kelley, Human Resources Specialist II for Valdosta State University. "Dr. Bogart mentioned that she wanted us to focus on recruiting and coincidentally that is when the Department of Labor called about their Job Fair and I volunteered to help."

With the assistance of in-house photographer extraordinaire, Sue Lampert, Brenda quickly pieced together a display board focusing on the employees and activities here at VSU. Armed with display board, in-house copied promotional materials, a new logo "We want you at VSU" and donated trinkets from the Bookstore, Brenda and Regina Lee, Administrative Secretary for Training and Development, ventured forth into the world of recruiting, competing with corporations who spend major dollars on job fairs recruitment efforts.

The Georgia Department of Labor Job Fair was the first experience for Brenda and Regina. As their expertise grew, more calls came in. Taking their show on the road, Brenda and Regina participated in the Valdosta Community Job Fair held at the James Rainwater Conference and the Job Fair at the Moody Air Force Base. Within a two month period they have represented VSU in three off-site and one on-site job fair, as they also somehow managed to squeeze in the VSU Job Fair held on campus in April. From these humble beginnings, a new recruitment focus has emerged and with each new opportunity the recruitment pools have been enhanced.

"If applicants are interested in maintenance, custodial or landscaping positions, we send them straight to Plant Operations," said Kelly. "It is exciting to attend the job fairs because I am able to meet other business and community leaders," Kelley stated. "We are able to swap ideas ranging from other job fair opportunities to possible employee leads."

## *Fuel Card Program Change*

---

Effective immediately, any merchant that accepts the Wright Express fuel card may be used to purchase fuel. This is different than our current policy that states we must use a merchant that participates in the tax exempt program. The change includes diesel and regular unleaded grade gasoline and is effective immediately. Please contact our office at 333-5705 or email at jkflint@valdosta.edu if you have any questions.

## *Training & Development – Workshop Opportunities Programs-May*

---

**New Employee Orientation-** Offered the last Thursday of every month from 8:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The class provides a welcome to the University and to acknowledge an employee's value to the organization. Helps staff members connect with their new workplace by understanding the vision, mission, and goals of the University. Teach staff about the services provided by various departments on campus.

---

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

---

### *Welcome and Congratulations !*

---

The following employees have been hired, promoted (\*), or moved to new positions since January. The Division of Finance and Administration would like to offer our welcome and congratulations!



| <i>Name</i>      | <i>Department</i>    | <i>Job Title</i>      |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Jerry Grimsley   | Auxillary Facilities | Groundskeeper         |
| Matthew Rudisail | University Police    | Public Safety Officer |
| Sabrina Countee  | Custodial Services   | Custodian             |

### *Murphy Named Customer Service Champion for Valdosta State University*

---

Rebecca Murphy, Assistant Director of Human Resources, Employee Development, has been chosen as the Customer Service Champion for Valdosta State University. This is in support of Governor Sonny Perdue's Customer Service Initiative in which he has created a state-wide goal of becoming the "Best Managed State in the Nation by 2007." The Governor also stated, "Georgia will have the Best Customer Service of any State in America." Thirty-five Champions were identified across the University System of Georgia campuses and each are charged with submitting a Customer Service Improvement Plan for their institution by May 5th. Once the plan's are received, each will be incorporated with the larger University System of Georgia plan. The larger plan will be submitted to the Governor's Office of Consumer Affairs by June 30th.

In a memorandum sent to Murphy, it states "the Customer Service Champion will assist the agency head in leading their organization towards becoming a Faster, Friendlier, and Easier organization with which Georgia's citizens may interact." Based on needs assessment, the goals included are "Faster (speed up processes)," "Easier (simplify access)," and "Friendlier (create a customer-focused culture)."

Murphy is responsible for identifying and developing a customer service improvement plan for VSU. There are several areas including: student services, community service, research, business services, healthcare and sporting events that she can contribute to improving.

Murphy was chosen to become the Customer Service Champion, because she possesses a thorough understanding of VSU and has access to leadership at all institutional areas. Her desire for learning and experience in planning and communicating to the public will enable her to plan, guide, and implement the entire Customer Service process.

## Employee Spotlight

Leah McMillian is a Staff Counselor with the Valdosta State University Counseling Center. She received a B.A. in Criminal Justice and her M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Valdosta State University. Within her 14 months of working at VSU, some of her duties include: providing psychotherapy for students, faculty, and staff; assist with individuals, couples, and or familial issues; discuss issues ranging from depression, test anxiety, sexual abuse, interpersonal relationships, eating disorders, sexual assault, self-image and self-esteem issues, anger and explosive behavior.



"A typical day at the VSU Counseling Center consist of seeing patients (faculty, staff, and students) that are dealing with multiple contextual issues, said McMillian. "I usually see four to six clients a day, (sessions can run about 50 to 60 minutes) and complete case notes on each client and each session." In addition, Leah meets with other staff counselors, and Student Affairs staff, faculty regularly regarding various projects on campus and consults with faculty or staff on student needs, issues, or problems.

"Being involved and observing all of the participation in "Take Back the Night" Candlelight March was important to me, McMillian continued. "We had over 200 people attend the event and had multiple sponsors and assistance from the community, student affairs, academic affairs, and the student population. It was a great event that brought awareness to sexual violence and taught prevention measures for all students to stay safe." "Take Back the Night" is a national program that many Universities across the United States participate in. "I am very proud that Valdosta State University joined them in taking a stand against violence," she added.

In her spare time, Leah enjoys gardening, reading, spending time with her family and friends, and volunteering in the community and on campus.

## Please Acknowledge Our Outstanding Co-Workers

The following people were recognized with *I Caught You Caring Cards* for their exemplary service in the past month!



Anthony Bryant  
Steve Cline  
Ann Farmer  
Bobby Flowers  
Carla Golden  
Judy Hart  
Shanika Hezekiah

Parking & Transportation  
Auxiliary Services  
Public Safety  
Plant Operations  
Auxiliary Facilities  
Human Resources  
Financial Services

Brenda Kelley  
Beth Lancaster  
Sherri McDonald  
Cpl. Dennis Nealon  
Ella Scurry  
Angela Steele  
Freda Wade

Human Resources  
Public Safety  
Plant Operations  
Public Safety  
Plant Operations  
Dining Services  
Human Resources

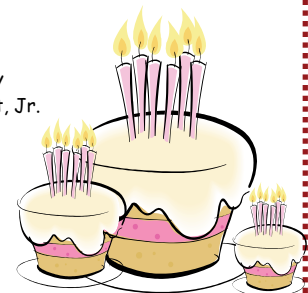
Please wish the following people a happy April birthday!

Joshua M. Arms  
Marty S. Atkins  
David Bennett  
Tarya A. Black  
Denise Bogart  
Joshua R. Bradley  
Madine Coretta Bradley  
Anthony L. Bryant  
Amanda J. Cagle  
Terrence Calloway  
John W. Cameron  
Latonya D. Carson  
Eddie B. Choice III  
Cindy L. Cobb  
Philip L. Cobb  
Brett J. Collins  
Hallie Crumbley  
Sandra A. Daniel  
Marjorie W. Dees  
Kendra L. Denmark  
Daniel Dorsey

Dana L. Ebron  
Kari E. Freeland  
Kenneth Folsom  
Curtis Foster  
Bryce N. Fulton  
Michelle Gailes  
Stephen Gessler  
Brandon David Glass  
Bethany A. Graham  
Gary W. Grall  
Lesie M. Golden  
Leigha L. Hammond  
Ashley S. Haynie  
Jennifer R. Harely  
Thomas W. Hardy  
Micha L. Heywood  
Greta Hezekiah  
Jarrod Hill  
Charlina M. Hollie  
Erin M. Hooper  
David C. Hoytt

Johnnie C. Kier  
Patrice E. Kirk  
William S. Lee  
Deborah Leisey  
Mary J. Mark  
William Milton  
Ethel Mosley  
Mireille Fon Nde  
Chacorra J. Nixon  
Lisa L. O' Barr  
Ben Oporum  
Njeri Monik Pringle  
Ebony N. Ramsey  
Deborah M. Reagan  
Brian J. Roberts  
Michael B. Roe  
George B. Rudd  
Katie Schinutzer  
Latissus Scruggs  
Carl Smith  
Debra E. Smith

John Spencer  
James M. Steinberg, Jr.  
Akilah A. Stewart  
Sarah J. Stewart  
Jenna R. Thompson  
Austin E. Vannoy  
Freda Wade  
Ashia D. Walker  
Danika D. Walker  
Madine Coreta D. Walker  
Adam J. Wiley  
April N. Wilkes  
April Williams  
Brooke Willoughby  
Leonard A. Wright, Jr.



happy birthday to you...