



HAVE YOU HEARD?

an update for the division of business and finance

FACT & FICTION: *Lock-up & Lock-out*

'Ok, I've done it again, locked myself out of my office. I know, I'll call University Police to let me in. But wait... the only crime committed here is the assault on my poor memory!' hmmm...

Who you gonna call?

For some time now, University Police has graciously provided the campus with the courtesy service of unlocking and locking doors for those of us who have forgotten our keys or locked them in our offices and classrooms. While this service is greatly appreciated by the campus community, it is also an unnecessary burden on an already stretched staff.

'Why such a burden?' you may wonder. Well let's say a third of the people you work with daily forget their keys or lock themselves out once every two months. In my office, that would be 1 person every two months; not such a burden. However university-wide, 4 lockouts a year for a third of our employees is 1,956 instances a year... which is 163 times a month or 5 times a day. And since doors that are unlocked often have to be relocked later in the day when an employee leaves, those figures could be double! It doesn't take long for our absentmindedness to add up!



So next time you forget your keys during regular University business hours, the Division of Business and Finance requests that you call the director, chief administrator, receptionist, or manager of your work area to assist you.

Save calls to University Police for when you need lock-out assistance outside of regular business hours. They'll be happy to assist you, and appreciate your consideration of their time!

Monday, March 14th, 2005



Got News?

- Have a question?
- Heard a rumor?
- News you'd like to share?
- A new service or program others should know about?
- An accomplishment to share?

You can be a part of *HAVE YOU HEARD?* Submit information to Carolyn Gaston at cgaston@valdosta.edu.

NEWS NOW

Less Stress & Less Money: Finding a Care Provider When Traveling

You can't always anticipate needing a doctor or going to the emergency room when you are traveling out-of-town. However, some simple pre-planning can make things a lot less stressful if you find yourself needing medical care away from home. In addition to lowering your stress, you might be able to lower your final bill by using providers within your insurance plan's network. Do a bit of research and tuck a list of providers in your bag BEFORE you leave Valdosta!

If you are a member of the university's PPO plan, you can find providers across the country that participate in your network by going to: <http://beechplus.beechstreet.com/IPLU/splash.jsp> and selecting Provider Search on the left hand side of the page. You can then search for doctors or hospitals within your PPO coverage network, across the United States.

If you have the university's traditional indemnity plan, you can see any provider you like and be assured of coverage, but if you do a bit of homework and select a provider that is in the blue cross network, you may find that you will pay less because those providers have agreed to charge patients 'usual and customary' fees. To find a list of these providers, or hospitals that work within the indemnity plan, go to: <http://www.geoaccess.com/bcbsga/po/O1welcome.asp> and select "Traditional Health Plan," then enter the city and state in which you wish to find a doctor.



Our Next Director of Human Resources

Dr. Denise Bogart has accepted Valdosta State University's offer to become our next Director of Human Resources. She will begin her transition to our organization in 1 1/2 months, with an anticipated start date of June 6th. Dr. Bogart will be coming to us from her position at the University of Florida as the Program Director for the library's Human Resources unit. Look for more information about her transition period and her arrival on campus as a full-time member of our university community.

Pedestrian Mall Planned for Main Campus

You may have heard the buzz about a "pedestrian mall" proposed for main campus. This concept seeks to beautify and unify the main campus area and provide a more conducive space for students, staff, and faculty to enjoy on foot. Plans will lessen through-traffic and reroute the current "drop-off zone." Our Plant Operations team is currently working with a local architect to develop construction documents for the pedestrian mall, which will be located north of the library along Blazer Boulevard. A wonderful atmosphere will be created with upgraded lighting and landscaping. Odum Library's existing fountain will be removed, and smaller functional fountains added to enhance the area. This is the fruition of our Master Planning activities, which recommended this enhancement. Plant Operations is hopeful that work will start this summer.



In conjunction with this project, additional parking will be created at the corner of Brookwood Place and Patterson Street, north of the Admissions Building. This will offset any parking lost on main campus due to the construction of the pedestrian mall. New parking in this area will be aesthetically pleasing and feature distinctive fencing.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Tommye Miller Receives Honors

Tommye Miller, Director of the bookstore was recently honored with one of her profession's highest distinctions. Ms. Miller accepted the Order of the National Association of College Stores (NACS) Eagle Award at the annual NACS meeting and Campus Market Exposition in New Orleans on February 27th. The Eagle Award is the NACS's highest honor, and Ms. Miller was the third woman presented the award since its inception in 1991. Highlighting her recognition were two standing ovations for her dedication to her profession. Congratulations Tommye, you are not only an honor to your profession, but to VSU as well!



Plant Operations Recognizes 'Employees of the Semester'

Plant Operations recently selected employees of the semester for Fall 2004. Each division chose an employee to honor, and then one employee was selected for special distinction from the divisional winners. Please congratulate: Joanne Coppage, Custodial Division; George Rudd, Maintenance Division; Kenneth Daniels, Landscape and Grounds Division; and Robert (Bubba) Nolan, Administration Division. The overall Employee of the Semester for Fall 2004 is Mr. George Rudd. Please offer him your good wishes when you see him on campus!



happy birthday to you ...

Please wish the following people a happy birthday as you see them this March!

Bethanie Bass	Michael Bauer	Brandin Brett	Eric Bridges	Jed Brogden	Phyllis Brooks
Donald Carnine	Willie Earl Carter	John Crapps IV	Kindell Daniels	Candice Edwards	Martha Ellington
Kevin Emert	Kristopher Engnell	Keith Flemming	Bobby Flowers	Dipsy Gandhi	Elizabeth Green
Mike Hamm	Johnathan Hill	Stephen Holly	Kirby Holmes	Wallace Holsendolph	Todd Howard
Antoine Ivey	Brantly Jackson	Terry Jackson	Robert Kellner	Johnnie Lamb	Sean Lauderdale
Jerriann Levy	Angela LoCascio	Arshavel Lovejoy	Marjorie Lucas	Jonas Lydon	Ava Matthews
Bradley McCord	Sherri McDonald	Mandy Ott	Jeffrey Payne	Danielle Peak	Nikki Peek
William Postel	Joseph Punke	Kim Rasmussen	Joan Reaves	Maria Rechkunova	Oi Robinson
Anthony Rolls	Larry Sellars	Russel Severns	Marsela Shiroka	Beverly Simmons	Lawrence Stephenson III
Kevub Stokley	Kellie Thomason	Adam Tillery	Robert Tindall	Linda Vendemo	Ryan Vickers
Akbar Washington	Amanda Waters	Johnny Watson	Candace Williams	Cocoa Williams	Roy Wilson
Benjamin Woods	Brandon Young	Charity Young	Freddie Young	Diana Zappier	