Dr. David W. Aldridge, professor and interim chair of biology, and Dr. Barry S. Payne of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss., have published a paper, “Effects of Temperature and Aerial Exposure on the BOD of Waste Zebra Mussel Removed from Navigational Locks,” appears in the international journal Water Research (Vol. 35, No. 12, pp. 2970-2974).

Dr. Cynthia Gilliss-Johnson, assistant professor of graphic communication systems and technological studies, has been elected to the board of directors for the International Graphic Art Education Association. She also is serving a two-year term as secretary of the association.

Dr. Rita Lamb and Gwen Godard of The Center for Student Success presented a workshop at the 15th National Conference on Student Retention that was held in New Orleans July 25-28. More than 100 administrators and faculty from across the nation attended their workshop, “Creating a Center for Student Success.”

Dr. James C. Renick, chancellor, has been appointed to the board of trustees for JSTOR, a nonprofit, digital archiving organization that preserves and maintains journal literature as well as makes that material more accessible. Since 1994, JSTOR has collected full runs of venerable journals, scanned the pages into a database, and made the contents available online.

Dr. Abdulhameed Shahbazi, associate professor in the agricultural and biosystems engineering program, gave a presentation at the Rural Electrification Workshop in Dakar, Senegal. The presentation was about using agricultural byproducts, such as sugarcane stalks, as sources of fuel to produce electricity. Conversion processes discussed by Shahbazi included direct combustion, thermal gasification, and anaerobic digestion or biological gasification.

“Under rules agreed to during negotiations with the World Trade Organization, China essentially opened its doors to American products. That holds tremendous potential for the pork producers of North Carolina and the rest of the United States.”

According to Qin, the Chinese market is especially attractive to American farmers because the Chinese place great value on pork products, such as organs, feet and other variety meats not typically desired by U.S. consumers.

“Because Chinese people want these products, which are often considered waste in the United States, we can add value to existing animal carcasses without increasing muscle meat prices for the U.S. consumer,” Qin said. He points to a study that indicates that exporting pork to China has the potential to increase prices farmers receive per hog by $5.

However, exporting to China is not as easy as vacuum-sealing a pork loin and mailing it, said Qin. As American companies begin exporting to China, Qin expects that they will encounter a number of obstacles. The A&T study is structured to identify those challenges and possible solutions.

The study will focus on China’s meat marketing and distribution chain, documenting the agencies involved and the governing policies and rules. To do this, Qin and other ITC researchers will work with a team from China’s Nanjing Agricultural University (NAU) on focus group sessions and other components of the project.

“It is extremely important for us to work closely with Chinese researchers living in the country,” says Qin. “We have successfully collaborated with NAU researchers on previous studies, and they have provided insights and access to information that wouldn’t be possible working solely from the United States.”

The study will begin with a literature review, followed by focus group sessions in Nanjing, Beijing, Shanghai and GuangZhou. With data gleaned from the focus groups and literature review, the researchers will document their findings in publications and through a seminar designed for pork producers and others potentially involved in the pork export market.

“The legislation opening this market is only part of the puzzle,” said Qin. “U.S. pork producers will also have to know how to sell their product to the Chinese. Once that happens, U.S. pork producers will find increased profits, and the Chinese will move toward solving some of their food supply problems.”

For more information, contact Qin at (336) 334-7694.

Dr. Barry S. Payne

For more information, contact Psalmonds at (336) 334-7995 or ep@ncat.edu.

Psalmonds

For the second consecutive year, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University has set an institutional record for annual funding of sponsored projects.

In the fiscal year ending June 30, 2001, N.C. A&T brought in 232 awards for a funded amount of $26,247,082 – compared to $23,550,004 for the prior fiscal year. This represents an 11 percent increase.

Sponsored projects ranged from community outreach to technology transfer.

“We are very pleased that our totals are increasing because competition for sponsor funding is also increasing,” said Dr. Earnestine Psalmonds, vice-chancellor for research and sponsored programs. “Only by being very proactive and taking a business-like approach to seeking and maintaining sponsors can we continue to grow.”

According to Psalmonds, the key to attracting sponsors is defining specific niches that are relevant to the needs of society and building interdisciplinary teams of talented faculty around those niches. As examples of A&T’s niches, Psalmonds cites materials, waste management, energy efficiency, human factors and aerospace sciences.

“We constantly research trends in sponsored programs while helping our faculty develop programs around efforts that are not only important today, but which will be important for years to come.”

The Division of Research manages the budget of 214 active projects that are valued at $117,523,008.

Sponsored programs include research, instruction and training, public service, evaluative testing, and other scholarly and creative activities conducted under the direction of university faculty and staff, and funded by organizations external to the university in accordance with award agreements, such as grants, contracts or cooperative agreements.

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For ticket information call: (336) 334-7749

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Catherine Perry has been promoted to administrative assistant, advancement services, Division of Development and University Relations.

Louisa Rosario has been promoted to safety officer (II), OSHA, Division of Business and Finance.

Larry Tart has been promoted to plumber (II), physical plant, Division of Business and Finance.

Dr. Marcus Tillery has been promoted to interim chairperson, department of manufacturing systems, School of Technology.

Dr. Carolyn Turner has been appointed associate dean for research, School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences.

Dr. Earnest Walker has been promoted to interim associate dean, School of Technology.

Stephanie Wingfield has been promoted to enrollment services offices, financial aid, Division of Academic Affairs.

Excess Travel Reimbursements Explained

The Office of State Budget, Planning and Management has issued a directive concerning excess subsistence as it relates to travel reimbursements. This action has significant impact to North Carolina A&T State University.

While this directive does not restrict travel, it should cause us to consider a little more planning when making travel arrangements,” said Willie T. “Tommy” Ellis Jr., interim vice chancellor for budget and finance. “First, everyone must understand the breakdown of the $85 in-state and the $97.50 out-of-state rates (as listed below).”

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In-State</th>
<th>Out-of-State</th>
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<tr>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dinner</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>16.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lodging (actual to up)</td>
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<td>66.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$85.00</td>
<td>$97.50</td>
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If the traveler's subsistence is going to be in excess of the amounts listed above, the excess travel reimbursement request and travel authorization must be completed and submitted to the Budget Office, Attn.: Akua Brown.

Do not submit travel authorizations for dates beyond December 2001. The Budget Office will compile authorizations on a weekly basis and send the requests to Raleigh for approval.

The State Budget Office has requested that only one office (agent) of the university submit a travel reimbursement request and travel authorization must be completed and submitted to Raleigh for approval.

For travelers who are not seeking exemptions and those who are denied exemptions, travel reimbursement request and travel authorization must be completed and submitted to Raleigh for approval.

If makeup of the university's transportation service is going to be in excess of the amounts listed above, the excess travel reimbursement request and travel authorization must be completed and submitted to the Budget Office, Attn.: Akua Brown.

For information, contact the Budget Office, (336) 334-7631.

Facility and Staff Notes continued

Dr. Guochen Yang, associate professor in the department of natural resources and environmental design, recently learned that his work in plant propagation will be published in two international publications. “In Vitro Auxillary Shoot Proliferation of Alfalfa,” appears in the Proceedings of Plant Growth Regulation Society of America. The article was co-authored with Dr. Martheleen Glass, an A&T horticulture researcher. The second article, “Forcing Solution Technology Generates Quality Propagules,” will appear in The North American Regions Plant Propagator.

Daughtry to Retire

Joseph E. ‘Joe’ Daughtry will retire as director of police and public safety, effective Dec. 1. His retirement will mark a 30-year career of outstanding service and commitment to North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

“I started as a patrolman back in 1972, and worked my way up the ladder,” Daughtry said in a recent interview. “I did my job and what I thought was best for the university.”

During his tenure, Daughtry transformed a small security department into a comprehensive police agency in 1985 with the same law enforcing capabilities as municipal police agencies. From eight employees to 26, from one vehicle to a fleet, Daughtry has moved N.C. A&T’s police operation to a state-of-the-art unit that focuses on investigations, prevention and technology.

Every day, the Aggie family enjoys some of the new initiatives that began during Daughtry’s administration – from bike patrols to Aggie shuttle. This is why Willie T. Ellis Jr., interim vice chancellor for business and finance, said Daughtry will be missed.

“We thank and appreciate Joe Daughtry for all he has done to provide a safe campus environment at A&T. I have had a working relationship with him for over 15 years, and I have always been impressed with his managerial strengths, his honesty and his integrity,” Ellis said.

The university will launch a national search for Daughtry’s replacement.