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USF to be censured for Al-Arian deal?

By Linda Young  Contributing Writer

The University of South Florida, in just its 42nd year, may receive a rare second censure from the American Association of University Professors for failing to maintain academic freedom.

The AAUP sent an ad hoc committee to investigate USF President Judy Genshaft's initial firing of tenured computer engineering professor Sami Al-Arian. The committee will meet with Genshaft, other university officials and students over several days.

Genshaft said she fired Al-Arian when he failed to clarify his opinion as his own and not USF's on the O'Reilly Factor, a Fox TV show, where he spoke about terrorism and politics. Genshaft also cited security fears on the USF campus stemming from death threats made to Al-Arian.

Since then, however, Genshaft said she will re-consider her recommendation and is still gathering evidence to make a final recommendation on Al-Arian's fate.

Reporting by the USF Tampa student newspaper, the Oracle, puts Genshaft's reasoning in a different perspective. Professor Ray Weatherford, president of USF Tampa's faculty union, claims he appeared on the O'Reilly show twice and had not been threatened with termination. He also expressed gratitude that USF did not fire faculty who received death threats by the Ku Klux Klan during the civil rights movement, The Oracle reported.

The committee, comprised of three professors from other universities, is spending spring break collecting data and forming a report. Even if the report from the committee determines that Genshaft's pending firing of Al-Arian violates academic freedom, it would attempt mediation with Genshaft before censuring the university, AAUP sources said.

AAUP members meet annually to vote on censuring

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Inside the Nest

Do colleges still need affirmative action?

University of Wisconsin struggles with admission policies that don't always take the best candidate because of quotas

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Campus Crusade for Christ

A campus organization spreads the word about their religion to prospective members

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Did greenhouse gases theory start at USF St. Pete?

Dr. Robert Garrels, a professor at USF St. Petersburg from 1980 to 1988, was an expert on carbon dioxide gases. Since his passing in 1988, a legend was born.

Page 4

Scuba lessons held at campus pool

USF students can learn to scuba in a new program being conducted by Treasure Island Divers. The course, held in the campus pool, gives students an opportunity to get certified.

Page 8

Hot dogs help raise bucks for Honors

Jelena Ljustina  Contributing Writer

The USF St. Petersburg Honors Program raised almost $200 by helping sell concessions at a spring training baseball game at Florida Power Park last Wednesday, March 13.

Six students and two faculty members volunteered at the stadium's first-base concession stand, selling hot dogs, nachos, Cracker Jacks, peanuts, soda and beer. Five hours of work brought the program about $175 plus $200 in tips, although the exact amount of money raised has not been calculated yet, said Sudsy Tschiderer, USF special events coordinator, who participated in the fundraising event.

She said that even though the game between the Devil Rays and the Toronto Blue Jays didn't turn out to be as lucrative as she thought, the program needs any money it can get. "We did very well."

Although the program participants volunteered at baseball games in the past Wednesday's game was the first fundraising event this year, Tschiderer said. The goal this time was to raise money for a new cabinet for the

Please see HONORS. 4

Hashim Ahmed, a USF St. Petersburg student, started collecting books for Africa after he learned that the campus bookstores wouldn't buy back most of his used books. Together with USF professor Ambe Njoh, Ahmed has helped collect about 7,000 books.

Jelena Ljustina  Contributing Writer

A USF professor and student have collected about 7,000 books for impoverished African countries—but they don't have the money for shipping.

Ambe Njoh, who teaches government and international affairs at USF St. Petersburg, and Hashim Ahmed, a junior majoring in economics, mathematics and management information systems, want to send as many books as possible to students in Cameroon and Ethiopia, two African countries that are in dire need of teaching materials, they said. In a period of roughly a year and a half, they collected nearly 7,000 used books.

They don't have the $4,000 to $5,000 needed to send the books to Africa, said Njoh. The books have to be transported in a 40-foot-long container, what explains the high shipping cost, he said.

Another problem is storage, Njoh said. The available space to store the books is extremely limited and it already reached its capacity.

Most of the collected books are stowed in a Catholic Charities facility on Ninth Avenue and 16th Street N. in St. Petersburg, Ahmed
Affirmative action questioned

By Eric Cullen
Badger Herald
(U-WIRE)

Only one out of 10 students is a minority in a typical University of Wisconsin-Madison class, a reality that may be rooted in the institution's admissions processes.

"UW-Madison is admitting and enrolling minority students who are not academically competitive," Hansen said. A Georgia woman has posted a petition at www.petitiononline.com requesting that the date be remembered as Unification Day. She wants the holiday to join nations around the world "together by pledging their support to eliminate terrorism on a global scale."

And an American holiday is going to unite the world? It doesn’t seem likely.

The tragedy of that day is impossible to forget, just as the events of Dec. 7, 1941 (Pearl Harbor attack) or April 19, 1995 (Oklahoma City bombing). These infamous dates bring to mind feelings of sorrow, loss and helplessness, whether you lived through them or not because of the stories of those who were there.

Some people would like Sept. 11 to be declared a national holiday. A Georgia woman has posted a petition at www.petitiononline.com requesting that the date be remembered as Unification Day. She wants the holiday to join nations around the world "together by pledging their support to eliminate terrorism on a global scale."

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Those who saw the smoke and heard the blasts. This is how Americans, and the rest of the world, will remember Sept. 11. Not because of a holiday that will turn into another excuse to get out of school or a day off work.

In a recent Gallup poll, Americans were split on whether Sept. 11 should be a national holiday or not. Forty-eight percent thought the holiday should be declared and 48 percent thought not. The online petition has collected more than 7,000 signatures. Although no legislation has been proposed, this idea is catching on. But if Sept. 11 is a national holiday, shouldn’t the day of the Oklahoma City bombings, April 19, also be one? And what about smaller acts of terrorism that go on every day?

Declaring Sept. 11 a national holiday would trivialize its impact. The events of that tragic day will live on forever in the minds of Americans and will be relayed to their children.

This is how children should learn about the horrific events. From stories from their parents and teachers, just as we learned about the pain and suffering of Pearl Harbor from our grandparents.

The sights and sounds of Sept. 11, 2001, are seared in the minds of Americans and the memory of the tragic day will be passed along to generation after generation. But for some, relying on each other to remember and honor the victims is not enough.

The student government of the University of Wisconsin held a special meeting last Tuesday to pass a resolution recognizing Sept. 11.

That’s a good start. But what about the rest of the world that was affected by the events of that day?

When the University of Wisconsin administration declared Sept. 11 a school holiday, they were not acknowledging the impact of the tragedy on the rest of the world.

The university’s consideration of "personal characteristics that will contribute to the strength and diversity of the university community." A 1998 faculty Senate resolution stated that when restrictions on freshman class size tighten selection of qualified applicants, admitting minority, disadvantaged or other groups "for which the university faculty has authorized special outreach efforts" is a priority.

Hansen said the policy’s ambiguous language is misleading.

"In the late ’70s I began looking into admissions practices but ran into a stone wall with the university," he said. Then I began writing on the system administration raising questions in the faculty Senate, and always being met with the difficulty of getting information from any one. In 1996 the Civil Rights Defense Coalition (pushed for) some targets (for diversity) that were clearly unrealistic, so then I began writing on it."

Hansen said his arguments are based on equality for all applicants.

"In my view, race-based admissions relates to the fact that people are treated differently, and that minorities are treated in a way that gives them an advantage over non-minorities. Affirmative action means ... with the proviso and other things being equal, the minority would get a preference," Hansen said.

Hansen said distinguishing "racial profiling" from "affirmative action" is a difficult. But the university's current practices may violate a Wisconsin statute preventing discrimination in public education.

"There is a gray area in between (acceptable and unacceptable affirmative action practices)," Hansen said. "A lot of people accepted (racial preferences) in the past, especially with respect to women. But this is definitely biased." Associate admissions directors didn’t comment on practices with respect to favoring minority applications.

Chancellor John Wiley said while UW is committed to affirmative action, the school’s policies and practices can’t be considered race preferences in any way.

"No one ever intended that affirmative action would be a process where less qualified minorities would be chosen over others," Wiley said. "We are simply obliged to do things affirmative and to take 'action' to try to improve the situation of minority representation, whether it is hiring or admissions."

UW law professor James Jones worked as a legal adviser in the 1960s when the first affirmative action guidelines were developed, and said Wisconsin wasn’t immune to scrutiny for racial practices.

"When Wisconsin statutes mandated these principles, the colleges in the state, other than the doctoral clusters, were under indictment from the federal government for discrimination against negro students," he said.

Jones said legal foundations of affirmative action allow the university to continue the practices Hansen questions.

"When you talk about preference, the chancellor is in the best position to say that we don’t have a system of racial preference," he said. "We have a system where race can be a factor, but so is being from Idaho, or a left-handed flute player or whatever."
“They make an everyday practice of the Bible,” Forstner said. “It’s a way to confidently seek assistance from God, from a higher power, from the one that really matters.”

Forstner established a weekly meeting that focuses on making Bible study an everyday practice. Part of a discipleship program Forstner participated in, it involves keeping a journal of insight from daily reading and encourages physical exercise, since the body is God’s temple, Forstner said.

“The intention of the discipleship program is to help you develop a daily quiet time, to get you communicating with God on a regular basis and making applications of scriptures to life,” Forstner said. “But it’s intended to focus on growth and development of current Christians, not as an evangelism tool.”

The group also opened an e-mail prayer line where any students can ask for prayer from Campus Crusade’s leaders. “Certain people don’t feel comfortable telling others their problems,” Forstner said. “It’s a way to confidentially seek assistance from God, from a higher power, from the one that really matters.”

Wiley said regardless of the university’s angle on race, each application is given equal consideration. “We do review every application one by one, by hand,” he said. “Sometimes we find people who weren’t encouraged to apply but who look like they have everything it takes to succeed here despite some low numbers.”

Wiley said in a situation where two qualified students differed only in race, the minority student “probably” would have an admissions advantage. But this did not constitute racial preferencing, he said.

“Many things are looked at in applications that there really isn’t a situation where people are exactly equal in all of their dimensions except race,” Wiley said.

A mandatory requirement is you must be in the top half of the class, submit an ACT score (and you must have taken certain classes. However, state and regent policy makes it very clear that these are the rules for what they identify as ‘normal’ admissions. They also tell us that we should be willing to make exceptions, and we do that,” Jones said while college admission policies have progressed, climate issues remain a problem.

“The university has a very sophisticated selection process. They don’t let anybody in who don’t think they can make it here,” Jones said. “When I was coming up, it didn’t matter that I had a 3.75. I could not understand why people weren’t encouraged to apply but who look like they have everything it takes to succeed here despite some low numbers.”

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Greenhouse guy USF fact or fiction?

Tabitha Whalen Contributing Writer

By all accounts Robert M. Garrels, USF St. Petersburg professor of geochemistry from 1980 to 1988, was a brilliant scientist. He won numerous awards during his 50-year career, received honorary degrees from four universities including Harvard, and was the first to hold the USF St. Petersburg Progress Endowed Chair of Marine Science.

At some point during the last 14 years since Garrels passed away on March 8, 1988, a USF urban legend was born. Did Garrels coin the phrase “greenhouse gases”?

Garrels fame came from being a world-renowned expert on carbon dioxide, or CO2, gases in the Earth’s atmosphere. CO2 is better known as a greenhouse gas because of its ability to trap heat in the atmosphere like the panes of glass that trap heat in a greenhouse.

Without these gases the Earth would be too cold for human life, but too many of them could cause the temperature to rise so high that the polar ice caps would melt, raising sea levels and shifting ocean currents that would further affect climate.

Despite the recent interest in the subject, not many people at USF remember Garrels or his work personally. But for those who do, it didn’t surprise them when asked if he had invented the moniker, “greenhouse gases.”

“People came from all over the world just to pick his brain,” said Peter Betzer, dean of the USF St. Petersburg College of Marine Science. “He was one of the greatest minds. He was amazing,” said Betzer.

When asked whether Garrels coined the phrase “greenhouse gases,” Betzer at first thought he hadn’t, but then recalled his work before coming to USF and thought it was possible.

A plaque in Betzer’s office attests to one of Garrels’ many awards, the 1985 Florida Scientist of the Year. “Dr. Garrels has played a pivotal role in unraveling the physical, chemical, and biological processes affecting the CO2 cycle in the ocean and atmosphere, processes that are being modified worldwide by man’s activities.”

“Dr. Robert M. Garrels is one of the preeminent geochemists in the world today,” states the plaque. But it did not mention that he created the phrase “greenhouse gases.”

Over the last 30 years greenhouse gases made news because of concerns expressed by scientists that human activities such as burning coal and auto emissions are increasing them at an alarming rate contributing to global warming.


Garrels earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and graduate and doctoral degrees from Northwestern University. He received awards from the Geological Society of London, the Geological Society of America and the Mineral Society of America. His honorary degrees came from Harvard University, the University of Michigan, the University of Brussels and University Louis Pasteur.

Leaving Betzer’s office a quick stop to speak with Linda Kelbaugh, program assistant to Betzer, reveals another possible lead.

“I heard that story about the naming of the greenhouse gases, but I don’t know who said it,” said Kelbaugh. A quick phone call made by university librarian Jerry Notaro from the reference desk at the USF Poynter Memorial Library reminded him of the name he sought.

“Dr. Robert Garrels. He was charter faculty of USF and one of the first scientists to hypothesize about the greenhouse effect,” said Notaro. “I think he named it,” added Notaro with less certainty. A second librarian directed me to associate librarian Deborah Henry because of her expertise in science.

“He certainly was the most outstanding man in that field,” said Henry when asked about Garrels history and the possibility that he named the greenhouse gases. “He was a Renaissance Man. He could think quantum leaps beyond other people,” said Henry.

After thinking for a few moments, Henry walked by memory over to the stacks and found a 1992 issue of Geochemistry at Cosmochimica Acta entitled, “Garrels Memorial Issue.” The preface, written by colleague and friend Harold C. Helgeson of Berkeley, California, contained surprising information. Not only was Garrels a brilliant scientist, but a poet and a comedian to boot.

In the lower right corner of the fourth page was a drawing entitled the, “Compleat Bermuda Man,” that is composed of tiny words written together in the shape of a sitting man. The head of the drawing said, “Bam, burn, ache, ache,” and the stream issuing from Bermuda Man’s mouth said, “smoke, smoke, smoke, smoke.”

Two pages are dedicated to Garrels treatise on, “swimming laps between the raft and the marine research vessel.” It begins with, “It has been brought to the attention of the officers of the Club that there has been a good bit of grumbling among the thirstier members of the Club concerning the 1/11 ratio between the Standard Gin and Tonic and a round trip swim to the Panamuras.”

What follows includes lengthy equations and a table to calculate the number of drinks earned by swimmers. Despite its humorous content, it is written in the formal language of a man who spent part of his life publishing more than 100 scientific articles.

“Bob Garrels’ brilliance, intuitive insight, charm, kindness, and gentle concern for other human beings drew lots of people to him,” writes Helgeson. “He also had a wonderful sense of humor and fun,” he adds without mention of his role in naming greenhouse gases.

Henry suggested that library director Kathy Arsenaault knew Robert Garrels and his wife Joan personally. On the third floor, Arsenault sat in a sparse office dominated by a panoramic view of Bayboro Harbor.

“I knew the Garrels’ a few years ago,” Joan is on my Christmas card list,” she said. “She lives in Chicago now. I don’t remember anything about his naming anything.”


Urban legends, “appear mysteriously and spread spontaneously,” according to the Web site urbanslegends.com. “They make good storytelling,” and do, “not have to be false.”

A great man graced the halls of USF St. Petersburg and his work contributed significantly to a worldwide body of knowledge on greenhouse gases. He did not invent the clever metaphor that was his legacy, but he did have a positive impact on those that knew him.

“I can understand how that would happen,” said Henry when the mystery of the origins of the term “greenhouse gases” was debunked. “He was such a guru in his field.”

Financial Aid Information Update

Do You Want A Chance At Some Free Money? All Students Applying for 2002-2003 Scholarships. Just a friendly reminder that the USF St. Petersburg Scholarship Application are due by March 8, 2002.

Do You Have Children In Licensed Daycare? If so, you can apply for the Student Government Child Care Subsidy Program each semester you are enrolled at USF St. Petersburg through the Financial Aid Office, Bay 105. Pick up applications for full details at the Financial Aid Office or you can call 553-1128 for general information.

March 20 - Spring 2002
Rays give youth chance in spring

Tanyon Sturtze and two relievers combined on a seven-hitter and Steve Cox doubled twice and drove in the game’s lone run as the Devil Rays shut out the Toronto Blue Jays 1-0 on March 13 at Florida Power Park, just blocks away from USF St. Petersburg. Sturtze, the probable opening day starter, allowed three hits in four innings.

Ever wanted to act in a stage production?

Johnny Crosskey in conjunction with Harborside Productions is holding auditions for “The Freshman,” a play by Johnny Crosskey.

Friday, March 22 - 2 - 5:30 p.m.
CAC 133

This play will be featured at the Orlando International Fringe Festival - May 10-19

For information on roles contact Johnny at (727) 320-1863

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Wellness Resources

Program begins Feb 1st & concludes with an award banquet on April 24th for all who complete the program.

For more information contact the Fitness Center at 553-1589 or Career & Counseling Center, 553-1129.
audiovisual set in the honors seminar room, said Ray Arsenault, USF history professor and director of the program.

The seminar room is on the second floor of the historic Snell House on Second Street and Fifth Avenue South. The AV set the Honors Program has now, Tschiderer said, does contribute to the ambiance of the room, and the new cabinet should help.

"Buying a new cabinet for the AV set is only one part of the ongoing goal of refurbishing the Snell House and making it more hospitable to students," she said. Although volunteering at baseball games has a way to raise needed money since 1995, the program made its first big purchase three years ago when a new sofa and love seat were added to the seminar room, she said.

For now, Arsenault said, the money raised on Wednesday will be added to the "cease of hundred dollars" that are already in the so-called Honors Program/Snell House account. Besides furnishing the honors seminar room, he said, the money from that account was used for the program's guest lectures in the past.

Traditionally, Tschiderer said, the use of the money raised at baseball games was limited to the program. "But someday we want to buy historic furniture for the whole Snell House." Plans also include putting up framed historic pictures of the campus, she said.

But the program is just one of many student entities involved in fundraising at baseball games. Suzanne Struthers, office assistant for student life and adviser for the Bayboro Educational Foundation, coordinates USF student groups that work at concession stands at Florida Power Park and Tropicana Field.

She said Student Government, Student Educational Association and Bayboro Sail Club are just a few examples of student groups and organizations she works with every year.

During the regular baseball season when the Devil Rays play at Tropicana Field, USF student groups work through and get paid by Tropicana Field's concessions, Volume Services America, Struthers said. On spring training games, such as the one past Wednesday, USF works directly with the Devil Rays.

Either way, she said, USF gets a percentage of the day's total inventory sales at the concession stand. A small percentage of that USF share, about 1.5 percent, goes to payroll and operating expenses of Bayboro Educational Foundation, and the rest, 7.5 percent, goes to the participating student group, she said.

In the past, most of the student groups that fundraised at baseball games were fraternities and sororities from the Tampa campus, Struthers said. And even in cases when USF S t. Petersburg student groups worked at concession stands, the money these students raised still had to go through Tampa before reaching the student groups, she said. "It took weeks."

Last year, Bayboro Educational Foundation was founded on the St. Petersburg campus, eliminating the detour of money through Tampa and making sure that student groups get the money they raise within a week, Struthers said. "We are our own foundation now. It's much easier."

Susan Sietsma, a sophomore majoring in political science and secretary of Student Government at USF St. Petersburg, said she has already worked four games for Student Government and three for other groups. From the money raised at baseball games in the past, she said, Student Government bought polo shirts imprinted with the USF logo and each member's name.

Future fundraising efforts held by Student Government, Sietsma said, will help pay for the homestanding and for more shirts for new members. But besides raising money, she said, volunteering at baseball games is "a great way of getting in touch with the local community."

Trying to engage the community in USF, Tschiderer said, is an important part of her job. Wearing USF T-shirts while volunteering at concession stands helps, she said. "People recognize us and start talking about the Bulls." That usually means that they tip more, she said.

Harris Blair, USF concession stand manager for the last three years, said that last Wednesday was rather a quiet day and that games at Tropicana Field are more lucrative. His assistant, Bill Jenks, started working for USF last season. He said he remembers a game at Tropicana Field where the sales totaled around $14,000 -- considering USF's share of 7.5 percent, the student group that worked made over $1,000.

"It's a very viable fundraising venue," Struthers said. Most potential to raise money comes with well-known teams, such as the Yankees, or with star players, she said.

Recently, she said, one thing in the way of raising more money has been the decreasing attendance at Devil Rays games.

Another problem is lack of student involvement, she said. Unless students are members of one of the campus clubs, they don't know about the fundraising, she said. And even if the students are members of a group, she said, they often have schedules that conflict with the games.

In the past years, student groups signed up for 60-80 games -- a number of which were cancelled because of lack of participants, and this year they took only 40 games, Struthers said.

But this year's season starts April 2 and only 75 percent of the 40 fundraising games are filled with participants, she said.

The best way to get student groups involved is word of mouth, but something needs to be done to help these student groups market themselves, Struthers said.

She said that expansion of USF to a four-year university will also expand the base of student clubs. Also, the new student orientation will market student club and student involvement even more, she said.

"We have to work on establishing clubs and help them establish memberships," Tschiderer said that USF St. Petersburg student groups are more lenient than those in Tampa when it comes to membership rules. "Students who want to help here are not locked in a rigid schedule," she said.

Besides helping raise money, volunteering at baseball games is a fun way for people to interact with each other and meet members of campus community, she said. "And you can do it once a year or 50 times a year."

HONORS, from 1

Sudsy Tschiderer, special events coordinator

"Someday we want to buy historic furniture for the whole Snell House." - Sudsy Tschiderer,

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Mary Barr Munroe: Woman of Action

Judy Gall, storyteller and balladeer, brings to life Florida Pioneer, Mary Barr Munroe (1852-1922), in her lively impersonation of this outspoken activist, environmentalist and Coconut Grove community leader. Experence Mary's courage and accomplishments before women had the right to vote; before it was acceptable for white women to associate with women of color; before roads and railroads brought food and other necessities to southern Florida; before the advent of screens to deter the swarms of mosquitoes in this subtropical environment. Hear Mary's story and you will view Coconut Grove and the Everglades National Park with new and exciting perspectives.

This program is funded by the Florida Humanities Council and sponsored by the Campus Women's Collective of the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. It is free and open to the public.

Friday, April 5, 2002
6:00 pm
Davis Hall #130

6
March 20 - Spring 2002
Books from 1

said. He said he is grateful the charity is collaborating and supporting the project, but does worry because the storage space is temporary.

Besides the obvious goal of getting teaching material to African students in need, finding a sponsor to ship the books in stock would also keep the collecting process and therefore the whole project moving, Ahmed said. "There's no point in collecting more books now when we can't even ship the ones we already have."

The project began about two years ago when Njoh and Ahmed, without knowing of each other's plans, started collecting used books. Njoh, born and raised in Cameroon, said he had the idea for a long time because he knows firsthand about the struggle that students in Africa face. "I went to school myself without books," he said.

Libraries in Cameroon are "not stocked at all," whereas books in the United States get thrown away. He said he started calling local high schools and colleges and picking up their used books that otherwise would have been discarded. The idea, he said, was to help students who can't afford books. "And most of them can't," he said.

A m h e d d 6 said he started collecting books for the same reason. He said the idea came to him at the end of his first semester at USF, when he learned that the campus bookstore wouldn't buy back most of his used books. "I had a choice: either toss out the books or give them to somebody," he said.

Donating books to Africa was his first thought, he said, because being born in Ethiopia and attending boarding schools in Kenya and Uganda made him familiar with the shortage of teaching material in most African countries.

After asking Stephen Ritch, the director of student affairs, for permission to collect books on campus, Ahmed said he set up boxes that read "Donate Books for Africa" in front of the library and in both campus bookstores. By that time, he had heard about Njoh's project to donate books to Cameroon, and ever since, the two have been working together.

"The turnout has been great. The students have been very generous," Njoh said. Local high schools and colleges have been helpful as well, he said. New College in Sarasota donated about 2,000 books, Ahmed said.

"It does not cost me anything to get these books, except to pick them up," Njoh said. He said he has stocked up his bookshop with a number of boxes filled with books. Once he finds people who are willing to help pay for shipping, he will have more books, he said.

So far, Ahmed said, only "a small batch" of about 100 books has reached Africa. He said he managed to transport these books with the help of friends who work for Ethiopian Airlines. The airline had some extra cargo space that was used for transporting installments of books, he said. The books went to the library of the Kotobe Teachers College that is located at the outskirts of the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

Ahmed said that the dean of the college sent him a long list of books the school desperately needs.

The Kotobe College is just one of many schools in Ethiopia that is short on books. A developing country on the East Coast of Africa, and one of the oldest countries in the world, Ethiopia faces many economic, political and societal problems that inevitably affect the educational system, according to U.S. government Web sites.

The literacy rate, of only 35.5 percent--compared to 97 percent in the United States--is one of the core problems. Another factor is that 86 percent of Ethiopians live in rural areas, and almost all schools are in urban centers. It's difficult getting to school.

Although somewhat more developed than Ethiopia, Cameroon, a former French and British colony on the west coast of Africa, is still a struggling country. The literacy rate in Cameroon, according to U.S. government data, is about 63 percent, with 48 percent of the population living below the poverty line, compared to about 12.2 percent in the United States.

As in Ethiopia, the economic crisis in Cameroon affects all aspects of life, including the education system. A shortage of teachers, teaching materials and overcrowded classrooms are problems that persist.

Beside donating books to underprivileged African students, Njoh said he is planning to establish a public library in Cameroon, where students will be able to use books for free.

Most books he and Ahmed have collected are textbooks that students abroad can use as reference material, he said. Even if curricula in Africa differ from those of the United States, the books they collected will help because "physics is physics and math is math," Njoh said.

Donating computers and linking the Cameroonian students to the rest of the world via the Internet will also be on his to-do list once the library is established, Njoh said. Only 0.12 percent of Cameroonians use the Internet and even fewer people have that privilege in Ethiopia, compared to about 53 percent of Americans who access the Web.

Both Njoh and Ahmed said they are committed to helping Africa by keeping their project alive. Njoh said that the 7,000 books already collected will not be the end of the project, and that the only thing missing is money. "If I can break through, it will be a great project."
**Scuba qualifying in campus pool**

By Lisa Kenny

Students doused with fins, masks and oxygen tanks turned USF St. Petersburg’s pool into an aquatic classroom this semester.

Recently, USF St. Petersburg contracted with Joe Bailey, owner of Treasure Island Divers, to provide scuba diving lessons at the pool as part of an on-campus training program.

Classes are open to USF students for $300 and non-students for $725.

This price includes two classroom sessions, two pool sessions and two boat trips.

In addition, Treasure Island Divers provides dive students with a snorkeling package which includes a mask, fins, snorkel, weight belt, dive booties and mesh bag, which students may keep after finishing the course.

Joe Bailey also provides students the necessary equipment to complete their diving certification.

Students have full use of breathing devices, regulators, tanks and wet suits during the class. "All they need to do is show up with a bathing suit," said Bailey.

The relatively low price for the course was a major factor for St. Petersburg resident Bob Riegel to take scuba lessons. Riegel said other dive outfits in the area charge more money and the courses take longer to complete, some from six to eight weeks.

Bailey sees shorter classes as an advantage. He said the students are eager to get in the water so he gets students certified in a few weekends.


**AAUP, from 1**

Institutions. If the AAUP decided to censure USF, disapproval would be lifted only after the university remedied the problem. AAUP sources said mediation could provide an opportunity for Genshaft to avoid censure even if it appears imminent.

USF received its first censure in 1964 when the AAUP decided USF President John S. Allen violated academic freedom by balk ing on the hiring of D. F. Fleming, a professor of political science. Fleming was assured a faculty position, moved a long distance to the Tampa area and purchased a house only to have his professorial nomination disqualified.

At the time, to receive a faculty position in Florida, a nomination was sent from the university wishing to hire a professor to the Board of Control, and the board was responsible for giving final approval.

President Allen withheld Fleming’s letter of nomination.

Allen notified Fleming of the decision nearly a month after he made it. Allen said he withheld the nomination because he made a late discovery that Vanderbilt University, Fleming’s prior employer, turned down Fleming’s request for continued employment.


The content of his book was described by groups such as the Florida Coalition of Patriotic Societies and the Johns Committee as un-American and sympathetic toward communism, according to the report, “Academic Freedom and Tenure: The University of South Florida,” published in the spring 1964 AAUP Bulletin.

The Johns Committee, created by Florida Sen. Charley Johns, referenced a McCarthy era cold war fear of communists and homosexuals among other things.

The Johns Committee criticized USF for many things. One was hiring Fleming, who it accused of being an “apologist” for communism. Another was requiring students to read a short story by J. D. Salinger that they claimed used language that was “literary garbage or trash.” The committee complained the curriculum encouraged students to question their own religion, and further, that USF refused to fire anyone accused of homosexuality without proof.

In October 1962, Allen suspended an assistant English professor for giving his students an essay to read that violated the standards adopted by the Board of Control, though the essay was used in over 100 other colleges.

By April 1963, Allen called the Johns Committee report a fabrication of blended truths and fictions.

Allen also told an ad hoc AAUP committee that he had only suspended the English professor because the Board threatened to fire him if he did not. Nevertheless, the AAUP found Allen and the board jointly responsible for violating good academic standards in their spring 1964 report.

USF opened in September of 1960, and in 1962 was embroiled in controversy stemming from firing Fleming, which culminated in academic censure in 1964.

Although the AAUP does not tell its members not to apply at a university under censure, many professors neither seek not accept a job at such an institution.

This may have long term ramifications.

USF does not have a Phi Beta Kappa honor society chapter though the University of Florida, Florida State University, and Florida International University are among the 252 colleges that do.

The honor society has been around since 1776 and its distinguished members - no more than 10 percent of a class - are nominated in their junior or senior year of college and meet rigorous academic and personal standards.

USF does want a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, which must be run by faculty who are Phi Beta Kappa members. The minimum number of faculty to establish and maintain a chapter is 10, said Director of Chapter Relations Nan Coppock-Bland.

Although there is no national policy against a chapter forming while a school is under censure Coppock-Bland said that it is the members, who are faculty at other institutions, who vote on forming a new chapter. Coppock-Bland responded to an inquiry from USF last month by advising the university to wait.

Usually a minimum of six formal requests are required before Phi Beta Kappa sends an onsite committee to evaluate, but when a member of Phi Beta Kappa lists membership on a resume, it attests to ability and character, Coppock-Bland said.


Although the USF St. Petersburg pool is large enough to handle this number of students, the M/V Freediver is only equipped to hold up to 12, including the crew, said Bailey. In the event of a large class, Bailey may divide students into groups of eight and take two separate boat trips.

One advantage to dividing the class is that Bailey may have two or three dive masters available to help students.

Classes have been relatively small so far, averaging five students per class. Bailey hopes to get more people in the next class. He added that he would like to increase the number of diving classes available at the university.

Bailey said he is going to begin offering night courses during the week to provide more flexibility for students who work during the day.

Once students complete their open water dives, their certification is good for the rest of their lives, provided they continue to dive on a regular basis. Bailey recommends a refresher course for those who have not dived in 1 to 5 years.

Bailey provides future discounts to students who have completed the scuba course. Students may rent dive equipment from Treasure Island Divers for $45 a day, opposed to the regular price of $85.

Bailey also includes an additional day of diving aboard the M/V Freediver after students receive their certification. All equipment and boat costs are included.

The next class begins on March 26. Interested parties should contact the USF Waterfront office at S53-1597.

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