

President's Newsletter

December 2009

To all members of our Salem State community:

With the close of the fall semester just around the corner, I would like to take this opportunity to let you know of a number of events that have enriched our fall semester.

Salem State Economics Team Competes



On November 16, Salem State economics majors Patrick Chandler, Herve Mukuna, Fevie Hernando, and Alex Kurkevelos, accompanied by their coach, Dr. Dorothy R. Siden, director of the Center for Economic Education and chair of our economics department, competed in New England's 2009 College FED Challenge at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston. Our Salem State team competed against economics squads from 20 other New England colleges. Pictured left, (L-R): Dr. Dorothy R. Siden (director of the Center for Economic Education and chair the economics department), Alex Kurkevelos, Patrick Chandler, Fevie Hernando, and Herve Mukuna are joined by George Guild of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston following their participation in the 2009 New England FED Challenge.

Tsongas Scholars Recognized at State House

That same day, six Salem State students were among 53 Massachusetts state college students honored as Paul E. Tsongas Scholars at State House ceremonies in Boston. Salem State's 2009 Tsongas Scholars, all of whom are in the Commonwealth Honors Program at the college, are Labeibah Khader, Kayla Bishop, Lauren Bishop, Molly Fitzel, and Ryan Fitzgerald.

Salem State was doubly honored to have alumna Kelly Quinn '08, a previous Tsongas Scholar, selected as one of the event's speakers. In her remarks, she noted how receiving the scholarship made it possible for her to complete a double major and obtain a grant to found an English program for orphans in the Dominican Republic. Kelly is currently enrolled in the graduate program at Salem State.

Governor Patrick Held Press Conference at Salem State to Announce Regional Readiness Centers

We were also delighted in November to welcome Governor Deval Patrick to our campus. At a Salem State press conference, the governor celebrated the establishment of the Commonwealth's first regional readiness centers, one of which is housed at our college.

A priority of the governor's Education Action Agenda, the state's six regional readiness centers will focus on enhancing the quality of teaching across the education continuum, supporting educators across the state in the work they do in the education of our children and helping school districts evaluate programs and assess their needs with respect to improving teaching and learning.

Residence Hall Association Brings Home another National Award

For the third time in as many years, Salem State has received national recognition from the National Association of College and University Residence Halls Association (NACURH) for its Welcome Back Carnival for first-year residential students. Congratulations to all involved!

Professor Chomsky Book Accorded Best Book 2009 Honors

Congratulations are also due Professor Avi Chomsky, whose most recent book, *Linked Labor Histories: New England, Colombia, and the Making of a Global Working Class*, was awarded the Best Book 2009 award from the New England Council of Latin American Studies (NECLAS) at its annual meeting this fall in Schenectady, NY.

Lastly, I would like to wish each of you greetings of the season, meaningful times with family and friends throughout the holidays, and a happy and healthy new year. I'll look forward to seeing you on December 18 at the college's drop-in holiday gathering which will be held in Veteran's Hall from 2 – 5 pm.

Sincerely,

Patricia Maguire Meservey
President