Greg Fisher has all the memory it takes to keep us up and running smoothly.
COUGAR CHIC. Athletics has a new brand identity and logo system, and it's time to update your look, too! Head over to the bookstore and gear up with the latest thing in Cougar Pride!

DIG IT. The Office of Sustainability, in collaboration with Dining Services, has expanded its composting initiatives: City Bistro, the Fresh Food Company and four other auxiliary locations around campus are now composting – and, in just one month, the efforts diverted 17,370 pounds of food waste from the landfill.

TAKE THE FOOD COURT FLOOR. The Stern Center Food Court received a mini facelift over the summer. The kitchen areas have all new floors, and customers can now have their say in creating their own salad at the Boars Head deli.

SCAN THIS. The two new touch-screen scanning kiosks at the Addlestone Library make it easy (and free!) to scan documents to files that can either be saved to a USB flash drive or sent via email – they can even save documents to an audio format to be played back on any portable digital audio device. The walk-up scanner is located in the library’s first-floor copy room, beside Java City, and the accessible seated scanner is located in the main computer lab on the first floor.

SMOOTH MOVE. Cool off with a milkshake, smoothie or frozen coffee drink from the new F’real blender machine at Market 159 – or head over to Einstein Bros. Bagels, where smoothies are the newest item on the menu!

FAIR TRADE COFFEE. A fully licensed Starbucks café will be replacing the不合时宜的 Starbucks café in the Addlestone Library next summer.

SMOOTHIES are the newest item on the menu! Get all the information you need to eat healthily from the new Healthy for Life Nutrition Wall at the Fresh Food Company. With general dietary guidelines as well as nutritional information for most of the main entrées served at the dining hall and the City Bistro, this colorful new feature makes eating right easy for everyone. You can also download the free CampusDish app to your Apple or Android device from Google Play or the Play Store and get today's menus’ nutritional information anywhere on campus.

CHILL OUT. The College’s 60 drink vending machines are now equipped with energy-saving systems that power down the machines’ cooling compressors when their motion sensors have not been activated for 15 minutes. The new feature is expected to save $2,500 a year in energy costs.

BREATHE EASY. The College is considering a tobacco-free campus policy that, if approved as currently drafted, would take effect January 1, 2015. Upon the policy’s approval, signage will be created and a new map will be prepared to show which College-controlled streets, sidewalks and green spaces the ban covers. The policy promotes a clean and healthy environment for the College community and includes a cessation program for those wishing to quit.

The South Carolina Aquarium is offering employees tickets at an online discounted rate. To purchase, visit scaquarium.org/visit/tickets.aspx, click on Corporate Ticket Login and enter the group name oocdhch and the password stringay2013. For more information, groupsales@scaquarium.org.

Lordis Left Aveda Salon and Spa on King Street offers staff and faculty $10 off the service of their choice on Tuesdays. For more information, lordisleft.com or info@lordisleft.com.

COFFEE. The deadline for staff to apply for Spring 2014 for-credit courses at the College is November 15. For more information and to apply, visit cougartrail.cofc.edu/link/docs/staff_app.pdf.

To access the dedicated faculty space in rooms 335 and/or 336 of the Addlestone Library (reserved for using the self-serve Scantron, conducting research, writing, reviewing students’ papers or other individual or collaborative scholarly pursuits), faculty should sign the key out from the library’s circulation desk. For more information, contact James Williams at williams@cofc.edu or 3.8015.

COFFEE HOUR

PORTICO COFFEE HOUR

Enjoy a cup of coffee, some breakfast treats and the company of other people who call the College “work.” The first 10 people to drop in will get a Portico mug and two free tickets to the women’s basketball game against S.C. State University on November 30. 8:30-9:30 a.m. Randolph Hall, Alumni Hall Info: theportico@cofc.edu, 3.5526

SOTTILE HOUSE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Get your picture taken with Santa, watch a performance by the Trippintones and the ECDC students, snack on cookies and hot chocolate and sing along with the College’s Concert and Gospel choirs. 4:00-5:30 p.m. Corner of Green and College ways Info: theportico@cofc.edu, 3.5526

FACULTY/STAFF HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Eat, drink and be merry at the College’s annual holiday celebration just for faculty and staff. 6:00–9:30 p.m. Drumheller House Info: Alex Thacker, thackera@cofc.edu, 3.6673

SAVE THE DATE

A Season of Celebrations!

November 1
PORTICO COFFEE HOUR

December 2
SOTTILE HOUSE TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

December 6
FACULTY/STAFF HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
**THE GRAVES HOUSE**: The sorority house at 36 Coming Street has undergone extensive exterior renovations, with interior renovations beginning soon. The project is scheduled to be complete by August 2014.

**WAGENER HOUSE**: Extensive renovations at 6 Green Way are under way and will include a new conference room, office space on the second floor and restoration of the first-floor porches, which had been enclosed. The offices of Nationally Competitive Awards and of the Office of Career Services are expected to be completed in December, with construction to begin in March. These floors will be closed to the public from May 15 to August 15, 2014, and construction should be complete in mid-January 2015.

**MAYBANK HALL**: This semester, repairs to the roof were made on both the west and east sides of this building, including replacement of rotted fascia and installation of new copper flashing. In December, repairs will be made in rooms 302 and 303, where the leaking roof caused damage to the floors, dry wall and chair rails.

**ROBERT SCOTT SMALL BUILDING**: As part of a multi-phase project to improve the building’s temperature and humidity, the Robert Scott Small Building’s full roof replacement will continue through the first of the year. Disturbance to the building’s occupants should be minimal, although third-floor occupants can expect to hear the occasional noise. A single, fenced-in laydown area on the west side of the building contains a staircase for access to the roof and is locked for your safety.

**SCHOOL OF SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS**: Work on the second floor of 202 Calhoun Street is on schedule for completion at the end of this year and a spring 2014 occupancy.

**ADDLESTONE LIBRARY**: Construction documents for the second- and third-floor renovations at the Addlestone Library are expected to be completed in December, with construction to begin in March. These floors will be closed to the public from May 15 to August 15, 2014, and construction should be complete in mid-January 2015.

**HOLLINGS CENTER**: The schematic design and programming for the old science center was completed in May. With the Budget and Control Board expected to approve the schematic plans in December, construction should begin in mid-2014.

**THE COLLEGE CORNER**: The former Barton’s Candy Card and Gift Shop on the corner of King and George streets is being internally transformed into the College’s gift shop, which should be complete by May.

**LIGHTSEY CENTER**: The former language lab in the Lightsey Center basement is being renovated for the ROAR Scholars Program, which is expected to move into the new space before the beginning of the summer semester.

**YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE HEADING DOWN THE HALLWAYS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC STUDIES.** Instead, you’ve found yourself transported to La Mancha, Spain. You walk along a sun-baked landscape, keeping company with Don Quixote and Sancho Panza as they tilt at windmills, and ask yourself, “¿Qué pasó?”

The answer: Marti Norfleet caught the painting bug over the summer. Inspired by a Spanish travel brochure left in her office, the Hispanic studies administrative specialist decided to paint a broad, bright mural paying homage to Cervantes’ Don Quixote.

After securing all the right approvals, Norfleet – a longtime artist who has found encouragement in the studio art classes she’s taken here at the College – gathered some sponges, some charcoal and some paintbrushes and created the mural in about four days, even spending some of her vacation days to complete it.

The process, she says, was therapeutic and fun. And based on all the positive reactions from students and colleagues, she has the appetite to paint even more walls.

“It’s a wonderful feeling,” says Norfleet, “to create something that makes someone smile.”

**NEED TO RUN AN ERRAND ACROSS THE PENINSULA? RUNNING LATE FOR LUNCH ON UPPER KING? WANT TO FEEL THE BREEZE THROUGH YOUR (HELMET-COVERED) HAIR?** Just swing by the Stern Center and borrow one of the eight cruiser bicycles in the College’s new bike share program!

**Bike CoFC** makes it easy to get around town on two wheels. Once you’ve watched the seven-minute safety video, signed the waiver and completed the registration form (all available at bike.cofc.edu/bike-share-program), you have unlimited access to the bikes. All you need to do is present your Cougar Card at the Stern Center lobby information desk, and you’ll be off and pedaling in no time.

The Office of Sustainability, which administers the program, provides the bicycles – as well as the helmets, lights and locks – free of charge, so long as they are returned by the end of the day. It’s free, it’s green and it’s easy! It’s no wonder the program has taken off so fast. And now, so can you!
The Fixer

A

The Fixer

at the moment, all seems lost. There you sit, staring blankly at your computer screen, unable to print, unable to access your work, unable to do your job. Why, oh why is this happening now, you think, when I have a deadline looming, a class to teach, a thousand different tasks to do?

Everyone in the office around you seems sympathetic, but they can’t help. They even seem a little relieved that it’s you suffering and not them. You want to scream, pick up your machine and smash it against the wall.

Fortunately, before you can lift it off your desk, in strolls Greg Fisher: your hirsute hero in cargo pants and blue Asics tennis shoes.

He smiles, plops down in front of your computer and asks, “What seems to be the problem?”

As you lumber through your answer, emphasizing over and over how important it is he fix your machine now, Fisher sits patiently listening, his Zen-like demeanor deflating the tension in the room.

When Greg Fisher, assistant field tech support manager for IT, is there at your machine, you know the cavalry has arrived.

Like a physician, Fisher has seen everyone on campus at their most vulnerable, perhaps even at their most desperate. And he knows that. He understands that a good bedside manner is nearly as important as fixing the problem at hand.

“People don’t speak Geek,” Fisher observes. “That’s probably the hardest part of the job: actually discerning what the problem is. There’s a language barrier. You may be saying your computer is doing this, but it’s actually doing something else, and you don’t know how to express it.”

And maybe that’s part of the fun for Fisher, as well. He loves the challenge of fixing things. As a kid, he was fascinated by electronics. However, he’s come a long way from his first computer, the Commodore 64, and from believing his uncle, who convinced him that computers were actually run by tiny people who lived in a miniature city of capacitors and circuitry and simply hid whenever you tried to look into the back of the machine.

But, for many of us, the idea of invisible people running the machine is easier to fathom than RAM, ROM, keychains, logs, networks, slots and drives.

Thank goodness for the people in IT – and thank goodness for someone like Fisher, the go-to guy for many problems on campus because of his rare combination of institutional memory and high-tech know-how.

“The answer is out there. And when he hasn’t!”

“Google’s my best friend,” Fisher laughs. “No matter what the issue is, you’re not the first to have it. The answer’s out there.”

Yes, the answer is out there. And, fortunately for all of us who suffer from PEBCAK (IT slang for Problem Exists Between Chair And Keyboard), we have Greg Fisher out there working relentlessly to fix it.

GREG FISHER’S WORDS OF WISDOM FOR COMPUTERS (AND MAKING YOUR WORK LIFE LESS PAINFUL)

1. Back your stuff up (and know where you put those files).
2. People, don’t mess with settings! Stop touching stuff. You don’t need to be there.
3. Keep your music somewhere else. It takes up too much memory. Listen to music through a streaming service like Spotify or Pandora.
4. As dumb as it may sound, turn off and on your machine before you call IT. Restarting your computer fixes more problems than you’ll ever know.

"Rainy night + sewing = bliss," @StitchyKelly tweets from her fabric-stuffed spare bedroom, where she is sitting at one of her four sewing machines. She’s about to finish up a table runner, which she will write about later on her Stitchy Quilt Stuff blog.

Kelly Biscopink is a modern quilter. Not only does she tweet and blog about quilts, she attends monthly meetings with the Charleston Modern Quilt Guild and even co-wrote a book about modern quilting.

Those of us who have never so much as cross-stitched a design or picked up a rotary cutter might be unaware that within the quilting world there exist two camps – or, to be more accurate, two guilds: traditional quilters and modern quilters. The difference between them lies in fabric selection, with modern quilters favoring patterns and lines that Biscopink describes as “cleaner,” or less busy and more avant-garde. You might liken it to the difference between Victorian and modern furniture.

Biscopink grew up learning traditional methods and aesthetics. Her mother taught her to make her first quilt (which is defined as a layer of batting sandwiched between layers of fabric and held together with stitching) when she was just 7 years old.

Years later, she found herself with a foot in both quilting communities and an editing job at Cincinnati publishing house F+W Media, and so she decided to bridge the worlds. She recruited her friend, Andrea Johnson, to co-write their book, *Modern Designs for Classic Quilts*.

“Coming from an editorial background, it was fascinating being on the other side of the writing process,” says Biscopink. “I had no idea how personal this book would be, how much I would agonize over it. I also can’t tell you how surprisingly emotional it was to see the book for the first time!”

The book hit the shelves in October 2012, shortly after Biscopink began working as the events coordinator at the Sottile Theatre – a return to her “first love.” She had worked in theater before – touring as a stage manager with Broadway musicals like *Miss Saigon*, *Cats* and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* for six-and-a-half years. Eventually, however, life on the road caught up with her.

“I kind of wanted to unpack my suitcase for a hot minute,” says Biscopink, who, since settling into her James Island home, has found a calmer lifestyle that allows time for quilting every night. And plenty of time for tweeting and blogging about it, too.

She is, after all, the modern quilter.
We may all work at the College of Charleston, but what we see on campus — and how we see it — is unique to each and every one of us. Of course, in this age of cell phone cameras and social media, it’s easier than ever to understand each other’s points of view. We not only share our own special perspectives with each other, but also see the world through the eyes of our friends and colleagues. With that in mind, we asked these five employees to share their view of campus with the rest of us so we can see just what the College looks like to them.
Mark Swick
Jewish Community Liaison

16 Glebe Street; Porters Lodge; "Sinai" (1941), a Willard Hirsch original sculpture that sits at the base of the stairs in the Jewish Studies Center; 74 George Street

Seaton Brown
Senior Admissions Counselor

Bid Day in the Cistern Yard; lunch at the Fresh Food Company; construction at the new Campus Center Apartments; Admissions staff training kickoff

Mindy Miley
Assistant Vice President of New Student Programming

St. Philip Street entrance to Cistern Yard; fish and turtle in Stern Center Garden pool; turtle in Stern Center Garden pool; through the portico of Randolph Hall
THE COUGAR IS A LONG, LEAN, MUSCULAR BEAST KNOWN FOR ITS AGILITY, its strength and its power. And – thanks to some ramped-up programming in Campus Recreation Services – our inner cougar has more opportunities than ever to show itself.

Cougar Fit, CRS’s fitness program built exclusively for staff and faculty, is a high-intensity, full-body circuit workout structured to adjust to all fitness levels – from beginners to bona fide athletes.

“Fitness does not discriminate. Everyone has the right and ability to be healthy and to exercise,” says Cougar Fit instructor Izzy Kelley, a senior exercise science major, who modifies the exercises according to individual fitness levels and demonstrates each of the eight exercises at the beginning of class. “Once they have the hang of it: That’s when it gets fun.”

Indeed, Kelley is known for blasting music, singing along to it and even breaking out into a little jig here and there. Still, she warns, “I’m watching them and making sure they’re not slacking off. I’m easygoing, but I can easily make them swear! They always thank me afterward, though.”

Makes sense – we all need a little get-up-and-go sometimes. Especially after a long day at work.

“Taking care of our amazing faculty and staff is one of the most important things we can do. They spend so much energy and put so much of their time and thought into supporting students, they put themselves second,” says Bucky Buchanan, CRS fitness coordinator. “It’s important that they’re supported, too. This is one way of doing that.”

Another way is through the Faculty/Staff Group Fitness Package, which grants full access to a number of fitness classes, including Zumba, power yoga, bootcamp and Cougar Training, Core, Sanity, Pump, HIIT and Impact. Unlike Cougar Fit, these classes are open to students, as well – bringing even more cougars together.

“It gives people a chance to get to know each other and support each other in a different way,” says Buchanan. “Exercise has a way of humanizing everyone.”

And, of course, bringing out the cougar in us all.

Cougar Fit classes are held MWF, 5:15-6:15 p.m., and cost $42/six-week session or $5/class. The Faculty/Staff Group Fitness Package costs $40/semester; visit campusrec.cofc.edu/fitness/group-fitness for class descriptions and schedules. Stay tuned for more fitness opportunities, including Cougar Small Group Training, coming soon.

AT THE COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON, WE ALL HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY. And – whether it’s in the classroom, in an interview, on a blog, through social media or on a Listserv – very few of us shy away from expressing ourselves, our passions and our senses of humor. In fact, some of us even take it to the streets, slapping our messages – be they political positions, social causes, recreational diversions, professional devotions or inside jokes – on the bumpers of our cars for all the world to see.

Let’s see how well you’ve been paying attention to your fellow staff and faculty members – or, at least, how well you’ve been paying attention to the car in front of you in that five o’clock traffic.

Try matching these staff and faculty members with their bumper stickers and find out who’s putting what out on the street!

CAR TALK: CRS Is Making Cougars of Us All

1) Erik Setka
2) Alex Kasman
3) Lisa Calvert
4) Sandy Slater
5) Jim Deavor
6) Daniel Taber
7) Lisa Weaver
8) Gorra Sancha
9) Elaine Worzala
10) Stephanie Rehmann


Back off, man. I’m a Scientist.

Metaphors be with you.
CONGRATULATIONS TO TROY JOHNSON, plumber in Physical Plant, who correctly guessed that the object in question was the cage full of boots located in the stairwell at the north end (closest to the loading dock) of the Rita Liddy Hollings Science Center. Biology and geology students wear the waders when conducting field research.

IF YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT THE OBJECT in the above photo is and where it can be found, send your guess to theportico@cofc.edu by Friday, November 15. The names of those who submit the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for a free lunch for two at the Fresh Food Company. The contest is open to all College faculty and staff.