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Southern Educator

College of Education • Georgia Southern University

Volume 21 , Issue 1

<http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu>

Fall 2010

Koballa Appointed as COE Dean

July 1, 2010, Dr. Thomas R. Koballa, Jr. joined the College of Education as dean of the College and professor of teaching and learning. Previously, Koballa was a tenured professor of science education in the Department of Science Education at the University of Georgia. He had been at the University of Georgia since 1990, first serving as associate professor and director, Northeast Center, Georgia Initiative in Mathematics and Science, then department head (1997-2004) and professor of the Department of Science Education.



He also served as guest professor in the Department of Chemistry Education at the Institut für die Pädagogik der Naturwissenschaften, University of Kiel, Germany. Prior to his appointment at the University of Georgia, he was assistant professor, then associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, University of Texas at Austin. Koballa has also served on the faculty at Pikeville College, Pikeville, Kentucky, and Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky.

Koballa has a distinguished academic record. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology and master's degree in science education from East Carolina University, and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from the Pennsylvania State University. He is past-president of the National Association for Research in Science Teaching and the recipient of the Association of Science Teacher Education's Outstanding Mentoring Award. He has taught undergraduate and graduate classes in science education and has authored or co-authored more than 60 journal articles and chapters. His current research foci include science teacher learning and mentoring.

We are pleased to have in this *Southern Educator* Dr. Koballa's first "Dean's Corner" on page two.

Jack Miller Faculty Awards

Three faculty awards were presented at the opening meeting of the College of Education on August 11, 2010. The **Jack Miller Faculty Awards** are presented annually to members of the faculty for demonstrated excellence over the three-year period of review.

Dr. Christine A. Draper, assistant professor of middle grades in the Department of Teaching and Learning, received the **Jack Miller Award for Teaching**. The award recognizes her dedication as a teacher-practitioner as well as her outstanding classroom teaching for student learning, work with partner schools, and online course development. A colleague described her as a creative teacher who engages students in the classroom and maintains contact with them outside of the classroom. Draper teaches both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, having developed several online courses for



the middle grades graduate program. In all of her courses, she and her students actively integrate technology into various activities and course assignments.

Dr. Dorothy A. Battle, professor of educational psychology in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading, received the **Jack Miller Award for Service**. Since 2007, Dr. Battle has provided leadership as the academic faculty liaison for Georgia Southern's Summer Research Institute for scholars of the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, furthering the scholars' educational aspirations of obtaining a doctoral degree. She has also served in various advising roles for the University's chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and currently serves on the University's Calendar Committee and Provost Search Committee. In 2009, Battle received a service grant from the University's Faculty Service Committee, a highly competitive award program, which was used to fund an after-school program on financial and mathematics skills, at Screven County Middle School.



Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson, assistant professor of educational research in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading, received the **Jack Miller Award for Scholarship and Creative Activity**. Williams-Johnson has been an active member of the COE Research Committee, serving as committee chair for two years and providing leadership in the establishment of the COE's Research Statement and the Seed Funding for Research Proposals opportunity. Her personal areas of research focus on motivation, efficacy beliefs, and racial identity. She has published several articles in well-respected, peer-reviewed journals with very selective acceptance rates; has co-authored two chapters in edited books; and has several additional manuscripts submitted or in process. Williams-Johnson also works with undergraduate students who are conducting research in the COE Honors Research Seminar.

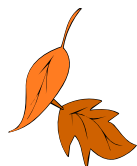
The Jack Miller Awards competition is open to all full-time, tenure-track, COE faculty. Recipients receive a plaque and monetary prize.

Fall 2010 Numbers

The College of Education has a total of **2,762** students enrolled at the time of this issue going to press.

1,300 undergraduates are pursuing bachelor of science in education degrees, 1,384 graduate students are pursuing master's, specialist, or doctoral degrees, and 78 students are enrolled as endorsement or non-degree students.

Of the enrolled graduate students, the four fully online master's programs (M.Ed. in Accomplished Teaching, M.Ed. in Educational Leadership, M.Ed. in Instructional Technology, and M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning with concentration in Instructional Improvement) have a total of 398 students enrolled. (as of 9/30/10)



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It was my pleasure to address the College of Education faculty and staff on Wednesday, August 11, 2010, at my first fall COE meeting. My remarks to the faculty and staff on this occasion included a report on the overall health of the College. I was pleased to report the overall health is EXCELLENT!

Indicators of the excellent health of the College include:

- Three very strong departments, with accomplished and caring faculty and staff;
- Undergraduate and graduate programs that continue to attract increasing numbers of high quality students and that accommodate the needs of students through a growing array of online, blended, and face-to-face courses and diverse field experiences;
- Efforts to provide for the needs of the P-12 and higher education communities through a variety of faculty and staff led initiatives, including the popular Youth-at-Risk Conference;
- Dedicated student advisors, certification personnel, and others who support the work of faculty on a daily basis;
- Technology enriched classrooms and enhanced facilities in our Instructional Resources Center to support the work of faculty and students; and
- New faculty and staff that bring with them vigor and understandings that will serve to strengthen our College.

There are many other indicators that I could list, but suffice it to say that they all point to a bright future for our College as we, with our colleagues across the University community, strive to meet the goal set for us by President Brooks Keel of becoming a 21st century research university.

As dean, I wish to provide the leadership and support needed to enable the College of Education to rise to the challenges associated with Georgia Southern becoming a 21st century research university. I believe I can do this by **first** understanding and drawing on the heritage of Georgia Southern University as one of the premier educator preparation institutions in the southeastern United States. **Second**, I can draw on my knowledge, built over the course of 29 years of experience, of what is required to function as a teacher-scholar in a college of education at a research university. I view myself as a faculty member serving as dean, and, for me, being a teacher-scholar means that my research, teaching, and professional service, including that associated with the position of dean, are linked so that each informs the others. **Third**, I can draw on the strengths of the College's faculty and staff to ensure that I understand their vision for personal success, success for our students, and the overall success of the College. By understanding the vision for success held by faculty and staff, I believe I can help them achieve professional satisfaction and a sense of accomplishment in their lives. **Fourth**, I must understand the expectations for the College of Education held by our alumni, friends and supporters, and prospective students. Through communication with these important constituencies, I can help the College respond to the changing needs and desires of our expanding University community.

From a historic past, to its present excellence, to a future filled with challenges and excitement, this is the College of Education at Georgia Southern University. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to serve as its dean.

Thomas R. Koballa, Jr.

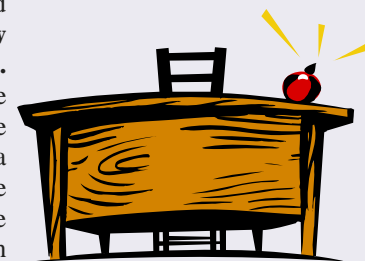
NEWS FLASH

Awards and Recognitions



COE faculty were honored at the **16th Annual Essence Awards**, April 2010. The Essence Awards, sponsored by the Multicultural Student Center, recognize and honor campus constituents who have contributed to increasing the appreciation of diversity at Georgia Southern University. **Dr. Dorothy Battle** received the **Distinguished Faculty/Staff Award** for outstanding dedication to advocating for diversity issues both in and out of the classroom. **Dr. Dan Rea** received the **Unsung Hero Award** recognizing his commitment to students through providing outstanding service or support, or even just a friendly face around campus.

Lindsay Minis and **Jaroy Stuckey** have been named the Georgia Southern University - **Georgia Power New Teacher Assistance Grant award winners for 2010**. Minis graduated with a MAT in secondary science education and is now teaching 7th and 8th grade science at Claxton Middle School. Stuckey graduated with a BSED in middle grades education (math and language arts). He is a 7th grade math teacher at Dublin Middle School. In addition to the recognition for being top in their class academically, they each received \$1,000 to purchase materials for their new classrooms.



The following 2010 College of Education graduates were also nominated for this award: **Sarah Enfinger**, **Charles Cox, II**, **Tara Grimbball**, and **Fran Lord**.

Bikes Available

The Office of Sustainability awarded a Sustainability Incentive Grant thanks to the hard work of **Dr. Bob Lake** (COE) and **Dr. Michelle Cawthorn** (Biology). Because of the grant, the COE is now offering bikes for short term use. The bikes are available to all faculty, staff, and graduate assistants for check-out from COE's Instructional Resources Center (IRC). Six bikes are currently available for use, providing an environmentally friendly way to travel around campus.



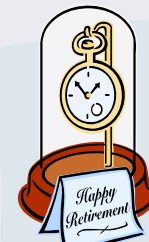
New Bus Routes



Georgia Southern expanded from one to two bus routes for students this year. The "Blue Route" serves Lanier Road residents stopping at the University Store and making two stops on Forest Drive at the Health Center and the COST Building. The "Gold Route" runs from Paulson Stadium to the RAC and then makes two stops on Forest Drive before reaching the University Store. The stop on the circle at the College of Education Building, recent COE graduates will remember, has been eliminated due to the stop added at the Health Center.

Brewton Retires

Dr. Cherry Brewton retired July 1, 2010, after serving 23 years in the College of Education. She was associate professor of early childhood education in the Department of Teaching and Learning. During her tenure, Dr. Brewton taught early childhood science courses for the program at the undergraduate and graduate levels, coordinated Methods II, and supervised student teachers. She participated in activities of the PRISM grant and held leadership roles at the state and national levels of the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). In 2004, NSTA recognized her at its annual convention for her outstanding service to the association.



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WELCOME NEW FACULTY



Nancy McBride Arrington, assistant professor of early childhood education, holds a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, elementary education, from Clemson University. Her dissertation was titled “The effects of participating in a service-learning experience on the development of self-efficacy for self-regulated learning of third graders in an urban elementary school in southeastern United States.” She holds National Board Certification in music education K-5, and participated with U.S. music educators in delegations to South Africa (2003) and Cuba (2001) through the

People to People Ambassadors Program.

Brenda G. Callahan, assistant professor of counselor education, is a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) and holds a Ph.D. in counselor education with a focus in multicultural counseling from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, a CACREP accredited institution. Before joining Georgia Southern, she was on faculty at Mercer University, Atlanta, teaching graduate level courses in counseling and coordinating the clinical practice component of the community counseling program there.



Lucilia Santos Green, assistant professor of instructional technology, holds an Ed.D. in instructional technology from Texas Tech University. Her dissertation is titled “A case study: The role of student generated podcasts in K-12 English language learner academic language, content acquisition, and technological literacy.” She also holds a master’s in library and information science, and bachelor’s for all levels of music education.

Anna Kay Hotchkiss, instructor of educational foundations, holds an M.Ed. in early childhood education from Georgia Southern. She has experience teaching at the collegiate level as a temporary instructor for the Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading at Georgia Southern and in the Early Childhood Education Department at Ogeechee Technical College. She holds Georgia educator P-5 certification and has taught in public schools including one summer in Abingdon, England.

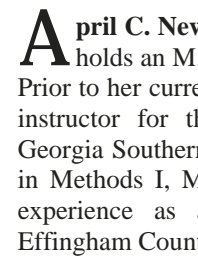


Kathryn Kennedy, assistant professor of instructional technology, holds a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in educational technology from the University of Florida. Her dissertation is titled “The essence of the virtual school practicum: A phenomenological study of pre-service teachers’ experience in a virtual school.” She is looking forward to continuing her research with K-12 online learning.



Jason LaFrance, assistant professor of educational leadership, holds an Ed.D. in educational leadership from the University of Central Florida completing a dissertation titled: “Examination of the fidelity of school-wide positive behavior support implementation and its relationship to academic and behavioral outcomes in Florida.” He has certifications and endorsements in elementary education grades 1-6, educational leadership K-12, ESOL, and NEFEC Principal Leadership Level 2A. He has worked in public schools and most recently served as

assistant principal of Rymfire Elementary School, Palm Coast, Florida.

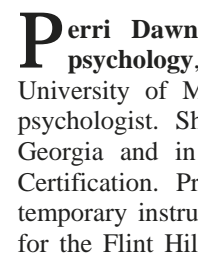


April C. Newkirk, instructor of early childhood education, holds an M.Ed. in reading education from Georgia Southern. Prior to her current appointment, she taught as an adjunct clinical instructor for the Department of Teaching and Learning at Georgia Southern supervising early childhood education students in Methods I, Methods II, and Student Teaching. She also has experience as an early intervention classroom teacher for Effingham County Schools.



Kelly Tharp, instructor of educational foundations, holds a Master of School Administration degree from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and an M.A.Ed. with concentration in secondary English education from the College of William and Mary. Prior to her current appointment, she taught in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading at Georgia Southern as a temporary instructor and from 2005-2008 held staff positions in the COE including FIPSE grant project director and director of the COE Induction Program. She holds Georgia P-12

Leadership Certification and was principal of Julia P. Bryant Elementary School in Statesboro for five years.



Perri Dawn Tysinger, assistant professor of school psychology, holds a Ph.D. in psychology from The University of Memphis and is a nationally certified school psychologist. She also holds school psychology certification in Georgia and in Kansas and Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Certification. Prior to her current appointment, she was a temporary instructor at Georgia Southern; school psychologist for the Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative in Emporia, Kansas; and school psychologist/Structured Learning Center coordinator for the Lafourche Parish School Board in Thibodaux, Louisiana.



Shelley Woodward, instructor of early childhood education, holds an M.Ed. in reading education from Georgia Southern. Prior to her current appointment, she served as a clinical instructor for the early childhood education and the special education programs at Georgia Southern. She has taught in public schools and holds early childhood education (P-5) certification as well as special education teaching certifications including general curriculum consultative, language arts cognitive, math cognitive, reading cognitive, science cognitive, social science cognitive, and

P-12 interrelated special education.

Overview of College of Education Programs

The College of Education offers **undergraduate and graduate programs** to prepare its students for work in public education, in community agencies, and in higher education. Programs are developed in collaboration with departments across the campus and with professionals in the field of education. The College and its three departments offer degree programs which include:

- * four majors for the Bachelor of Science in Education degree,
- * a Master of Arts in Teaching degree,
- * eight Master of Education degrees,
- * four Education Specialist degrees, and
- * two Doctor of Education degrees.

See the specific program areas for these degrees at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/degreesoffered.html>.

Fully online programs include the master’s in Accomplished Teaching, Educational Leadership, Instructional Technology, and Instructional Improvement. **Other programs offered with an online option** are the Ed.S. in Teaching and Learning, the M.Ed. in Higher Education Administration, and the Special Education Concentration of the M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning.

The College is fully accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education; its programs are approved by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and other specialized professional associations; and the counselor education program is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs.

ANOTHER GEORGIA TEACHER OF THE YEAR FROM GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Georgia Southern has long been recognized as a leader in teacher preparation. The latest shining example of this is the 2011 Georgia Teacher of the Year, **Pam Williams**.



On May 14 this year Williams, an economics teacher from Appling County High School, was officially named the winner of the award at the annual Georgia Teacher of the Year banquet at the Georgia Aquarium. She will spend the 2010-2011 school year serving as an advocate for public education and the teaching profession in Georgia.

Williams received her undergraduate degree from nearby Brewton Parker College before coming to Georgia Southern for her master's and education specialist degrees. She began her teaching career at Bacon County Middle School in 1991 and moved to Appling County in 1992. She taught sixth grade for two years and then taught language arts, reading, and Georgia studies at Appling County Middle School for 13 years. She came to the high school three years ago where she teaches economics and American government.

In her application, Williams described her philosophy of teaching as being focused on respect and responsibility. She stressed the importance of two-way communication between her and her students because she sees the teaching profession as second only to parenting. "Many children spend more time daily with their teachers than they do with their parents," Williams wrote. "As a result, I believe teaching encompasses far more than classroom instruction."

A high school senior at her school wrote, "Ms. Williams has an amazing ability to break down difficult concepts into simple lessons for students to understand. Her enthusiasm and passion for the subject she teaches radiates throughout every word she speaks. Because of her class, I have learned more about the principles upon which our nation was founded and I have become more involved in our government. She teaches us that we have a voice, one that can be heard and can make a difference if we use it correctly."

As Georgia Teacher of the Year, Williams will represent Georgia teachers by speaking to the public about the teaching profession and conducting workshops and programs for educators. She will also compete for the 2011 National Teacher of the Year.

The College of Education is proud to claim Williams as the latest in a long line of Georgia Teachers of the Year which includes: **Pam Walker** (2007), **Brenda Shuman-Riley** (2006), **Chase Puckett** (2005), **Molly P. Howard** (1990), and **Julie Lanier** (1985).

Counselor Educators of the Year – 2010

Faculty from the COE's Counselor Education Program were selected to receive state Counselor of the Year awards from counselor associations for 2010.

Dr. Leon Spencer was recognized as the Counselor Educator of the Year by the **Licensed Professional Counselors Association of Georgia (LPCA)**. LPCA is the Georgia state affiliate of the American Association of Mental Health Counselors. The award is given by LPCA to the counselor educator who has made exemplary contributions to the counseling profession in academic, research, supervision, and professional leadership. Spencer is an active LPCA member and a former LPCA president. He was honored for his decades of service to students, those in the community, and his professional organization. His service as a counselor educator includes local, state, and national commitments to the profession. Spencer is a National Certified Counselor and Master Addiction Counselor. He is a dedicated student and alumni mentor who has collaborated with students in professional development and research including collaboration and co-presenting at professional conferences. He is the advisor for the LPCA Student Affiliate Organization at Georgia Southern.



Dr. Lisa Schulz was selected by the **Georgia School Counselor Association (GSCA)** Professional Recognition Committee as its Counselor Educator of the Year for 2010. Schulz was nominated for the state award as the 2010 Counselor Educator of the Year for GSCA Region 12. The selection criteria consisted of letters of support from students, colleagues, and administrators as well as evidence of Schulz's scholarship, professional practice, and teaching. Her nomination was made and supported by students from the Counselor Education Program at Georgia Southern. The award will be presented at the GSCA Annual Conference to take place November 4-6, 2010, at the Classic Center in Athens, Ga. As a result of the state award, Schulz will also be nominated by GSCA for the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) National Counselor Educator of the Year Award.

Vafa Gasimova Muskie Fellow

Would you be brave enough, confident enough, to leave your home and family and travel halfway around the world to live by yourself in a place where most folks not only do not speak your language but do not even know where your birth country is located?

That is what **Vafa Gasimova**, COE's 2010 Muskie Fellow, has done. This past August, Gasimova left Azerbaijan and her family - a mother who is a teacher, a father who is an engineer, a brother who is a doctor, and a sister who is studying political science in Italy - to come to the United States to study for two years. She is working on a graduate degree with a particular interest in curriculum design and education management. After receiving degrees in linguistics, American literature, and business administration and after teaching in two Azerbaijani universities, Gasimova saw the shortcomings of her native educational system and decided she wanted to be a catalyst for improvement. Although Azerbaijan calls itself "democratic," Gasimova describes it more as "authoritarian." Because she believes that democracy starts with education, Gasimova is confident that as she helps to improve the education system, she can also improve the quality of life in general.



Gasimova speaks English very well, one of four languages in which she is fluent. When asked what she has found that she does not like in Statesboro, she quickly answered, "the food." She is not fond of the processed, fast food that is all too easily accessible. Even when she tries to cook for herself, Gasimova finds it difficult to find the healthy, organic type of food she is used to. On the other hand, when asked what she does like about her new surroundings, she immediately smiled and said, "All the friendly people." Two thumbs up for southern hospitality!

Gasimova was one of 141 recipients this year from a pool of over 3000 applicants. We are certain that she will prove to be an asset to Georgia Southern as it strives to broaden her educational leadership knowledge and skills.

The Edmund S. Muskie Ph.D. Fellowship Program

The Edmund S. Muskie Ph.D. Fellowship Program selects outstanding citizens from Eurasia to receive scholarships for master's level study and professional development in the United States in the fields of business administration, economics, education, environmental management and policy, international affairs, law, library and information science, journalism and mass communications, public administration, public health, and public policy.

Fellowships are awarded to young and mid-career individuals who are citizens of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, or Uzbekistan. The program is designed to foster democratization and the transition to market economies in Eurasia through intensive academic and professional training.



As an undergraduate at Georgia Southern, I was required by one of my professors to attend a presentation at the College of Education by that year's National Teacher of the Year, Andrea Peterson from the state of Washington. She explained that as the Teacher of the Year she was required to participate in a variety of functions. The one meeting that stood out in her mind was with a group of business leaders. They were discouraged about the decreasing number of college graduates who possessed the 21st century skills needed in today's workforce. Areas of deficiency included leadership, concentration, teamwork, a strong work ethic, and critical thinking skills. Peterson emphasized that these areas are important in providing students with the opportunity to become lifelong learners. At that time, I was still learning the content of my concentration and attending education classes, an endeavor that, at the time, seemed endless. Finally, after hours of classroom time and gracious support from my professors, I was considered prepared for the real world and my own classroom.

I was hired by the Bulloch County Board of Education to teach at Portal Middle and High School as a middle school science teacher. As a first-year teacher, I assumed the duties and responsibilities that are required of all teachers with the hopes of surviving and living to tell about it. The first year of teaching was more or less a year of trial by error. I remember creating concept maps and scripting lessons so that I could be as well prepared as I could be for my students. I soon found out that no matter how well-prepared you think you are, that sixth grader is always going to find the chink in your armor. At the end of my first year, I realized that I would need to continue my professional development to meet the demands of my profession.

So as my second year of teaching began, I also began my pursuit of a master's degree in teaching and learning. Georgia Southern was my first and only choice as the place to continue my education. As I took classes, both online and face-to-face, I began to implement the strategies and concepts learned from the variety of knowledgeable professors in the College of Education. Each professor demanded I meet high standards and encouraged critical thinking. In turn, I asked the same of my own students. As I now pursue my specialist degree, I continue to pass my own experiences on to my students.

I am now in my fifth year of teaching at Portal Middle and High School. Under the current economic climate, the school has tweaked the middle school concept to resemble a junior high. Instead of grade-level teams, we now have content departments. This concept is very different compared to the middle school concept that has been embraced over the last decade. I would be telling a lie if I told you that I was not nervous about change. However, I have come to realize that through my years at Georgia Southern I have learned a whole lot more than just "how to teach." I have been taught the 21st century skills that are necessary for adapting and surviving in the real world.

Little did I know that Ms. Peterson's words of wisdom would strengthen my own understanding of the College of Education's embedded vision to teach all to become lifelong learners.

*Robert C. Lindsey, Portal Middle and High School
B.S.Ed. in Middle Grades Education, Spring 2006*

M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning, Middle Grades Education, Fall 2009

International Student Teacher Exchanges

U.S. Students in England

Nine College of Education student teachers completed the last month of their student teaching experience spring semester 2010 participating in the **International Study Opportunity (ISO)**. Four early childhood and special education student teachers were hosted by **Andrew Jones** and **Rob Poole** at Rainbow Forge Primary School in Sheffield, England. **Paul Plunkett** and the faculty and staff of Hayfield School in Doncaster, England, hosted five student teachers representing middle grades education.

In November 2010 three early childhood student teachers from Georgia Southern, **Brittnee Harris**, **Olivia Howard**, and **Tabitha Taylor**, will spend the month learning more about education in England by participating in the exchange hosted by Sheffield Hallam University.

Pictured from Spring 2010 are **Vince Joy**, **Leslie Walker**, **Julayma Soto**, **Hannah Smith**, **Crystal Carlson**, **Jessica Jaramillo**, **Kimberly Turner**, **Ensley Jordan**, and **Kathleen Burns**.



UK Students in U.S.

In January 2010, Georgia Southern and two partner schools hosted the third cohort of teacher candidates from Sheffield Hallam University in Sheffield, England. The six early childhood candidates completed field experiences at Nevils and Sallie Zetterower Elementary Schools. Teachers hosting the students were **Susie Frawley**, **Sylvia Tremble**, **David Brown**, **Kathy Anderson**, **LuAnne Forehand**, and **Michelle Rogers**.

In addition to their time in Statesboro (in school placements) the students made weekend trips to Savannah, Atlanta, and Orlando. Three students spent New Year's Eve in Times Square before coming to Statesboro. Two students attended Girl Scout meetings since they are Girl Guide leaders in England.

Pictured are **Becky Southwell**, **Adam Wawrzyniak**, **Laura Jackson**, **Joanna Webb**, **Libby Walker**, and **Sam Dear**. The College of Education looks forward to hosting another cohort of students from Sheffield Hallam University in 2011.



SMART Scholar Program

Five faculty members from COST and COE received a grant from the Robert Noyce Foundation to recruit talented STEM majors into secondary education. **Jim LoBue**, **Michelle Cawthorn**, **Joy Darley**, and **Brian Koehler** of COST and **Marlynn Griffin** of COE are using the \$749,000 grant to conduct the SMART Scholar program - Science and Mathematics Achievement via Research and Teaching.

In its second year of implementation, there are now four second-year SMART Scholars enrolled in the MAT program and nine first-year SMART Scholars in their senior year of COST major courses. SMART Scholars receive a forgivable loan of up to \$20,000 split between their senior year and their first year of graduate school, repayable with two years of teaching service for each \$10,000 awarded. Students complete math and science relevant internships, such as tutoring at local schools, serving as math team coaches, assisting in science labs, and working at Eagle Science Camp. Scholars meet with SMART team faculty informally and in more formal reading discussion groups.

As scholars begin teaching, the SMART team will provide mentoring, pedagogical, and content support for the SMART Scholars during their first few years of teaching. Over the course of the five-year grant, the team hopes to recruit at least 25 STEM majors into high-need STEM teaching fields.

*Can you identify this
COE faculty member?
See page 8 for
his name.*



ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE SAYS “YES!”

Do COE alumni care what happens in their college after they graduate? Do the faculty and staff care about the alums after they drive off campus? The answer to both of those questions is a resounding “YES!” from the members of the 2010-2011 Alumni Advisory Committee. The work of this committee is a two-way street with both on- and off-campus members striving to improve communication between the current College of Education faculty and the 15,000+ alumni.

Ongoing projects include Homecoming events, Southern’s Art Extravaganza, and alumni gatherings at a winter basketball game and a spring baseball game. Last year, one of the highlights of the year was a family picnic at the Oak Grove One-Room Schoolhouse where many of the members were introduced to the new COE dean, Thomas R. Koballa, Jr. Alumni have also been invited to be members of scholarship committees and search committees. The group is always open to suggestions of ways that the COE and its alums can support each other. Committee members include: **Becky Petkewich, Chair; Amy Altman, Jan Anderson, Eric Carlyle, Ashley Crosby, Lydia Cross, Caroline Deal, Jennifer Holtzapple, Robert Luke, Julie Maudlin, Greg Miles, Debra Miller, Pat Parsons, Mark Petkewich, Jim Thompson, Tiffany Todd, and Todd Williford.** If you are interested in being a part of this advisory committee, feel free to contact the Dean’s Office, 912-478-0671, or email Claudia Moller at ccmoller@georgiasouthern.edu.



Homecoming 2010 ARE YOU COMING “HOME”?

If you plan to be on campus for Homecoming festivities, the COE invites you to connect with two special events.



Saturday, Nov. 6, from 10:30 a.m. until game time, the COE golf cart will be parked near the parking lot ticket booth, with members of the Alumni Advisory Committee, faculty, and staff giving out spirit ribbons, fans, and some special promotional items for COE alums. Stop by and visit before you enter the prettiest little stadium in America to cheer for the Eagles as they take on the Appalachian State Mountaineers!

Sunday, Nov. 7, the Alumni Advisory Committee is sponsoring the opening of **Southern’s Art Extravaganza**. Come at 2 p.m. for the introductions in the lecture hall of the COE Classroom Building and the reception in the lobby. Then tour the 2nd floor gallery to view the amazing artwork of local K-12 student artists.

Engraved Bricks: Next Order December 31

As an individual who has spent time at Georgia Southern, you know of its impact on student lives. Now you can support student scholarships and become a permanent part of the campus by purchasing a brick engraved with your name.



Engraved bricks pave Centennial Plaza between the COE Building and the CIT Building, at the south end of the Pedestrium. Students and visitors pass through the area and admire the names of those whose time at Georgia Southern has been commemorated.

All orders received by Dec. 31, 2010, will be included in the next set of bricks to be installed. You will receive a certificate immediately upon receipt of your fully tax-deductible order (\$100 per brick). **Then in early 2011**, see your brick installed in the

Plaza and receive a mini-replica of your engraved brick as a memento.

Use the order form at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/brickcampaign.html> to tell us the words you would like to have engraved. There may never be a faster turn-around, so take advantage of this guaranteed opportunity and be among the next bricks installed in the Plaza.

One-Room Schoolhouse Moved to Botanical Garden



The Georgia Southern Botanical Garden is the new home of the Oak Grove Schoolhouse, a one-room school typical of the many one-room schools that served most of Georgia’s rural students from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century. The school has been

located on Bowen-Rushing Road, at the farm of COE alumna **Jan Anderson**, but it has found a wonderful new home at the Garden, which already offers a museum of rural life in the 1920s and 30s in the restored Weathervane Barn.

For more information about the schoolhouse and to schedule classroom visits, see <http://welcome.georgiasouthern.edu/garden/oakgroveschool.htm>.

Southern Educator Class Roll

1950

Marion T. Fuller (B.S. Early Elementary Education) earned an M.Ed. from the University of Georgia in 1954. Because of Marion's bad health, she spends most of her time with family and friends. She also does genealogy work and local history of Carroll County. Since she is unable to drive, most of her communication is by phone with family and friends.

1960

Edith H. Chastain (B.S. Early Childhood Education) graduated from Georgia Teacher's College, now known as Georgia Southern University. She also received her master's of education from the University of Florida. Mrs. Chastain passed away July 2, 2007.

1961

Eleanor H. English Davis (B.S. Education) earned a master's in education at Georgia Southwestern. Since the time she graduated, she has had three children and now has six grandchildren. In 2000 Eleanor lost her husband. After 30 years of teaching in Americus, Ga, Eleanor has retired. She can be contacted by email at Grangran39@hotmail.com.

1965

Shirley Lunsford Davis (B.S. Education) not only obtained her B.S. degree, she went on to receive her specialist in education from the University of Georgia in 1982 and completed doctoral work in leadership at Georgia State University. Currently Shirley is teaching graduate courses in educational leadership through the Rising Stars Leadership Development Program and directing the Georgia Appalachian Center for Higher Education. GACHE works to increase the graduation and college-going rate in the 37 Appalachian counties of Georgia. Shirley can be contacted by email at shirleydavis@comcast.net.

1967

Margaret Claire Newell Johnson (B.S. Education) has retired and currently resides in Arizona.

1968

Gwendolyn Dale Lloyd Moseley (B.S. Elementary Education, M.S. School Administration) recently retired from teaching. She can be contacted by email at glmose559@raodrunner.com.

1975

Vikki Diane Edenfield Womack (Early Childhood Education) taught first grade at Swainsboro Primary for 33 years. She was named Teacher of the Year twice, prior to her retirement in June 2008. Womack is married to Georgia Southern alum Ronnie Womack, and they have two sons, Ron (Stacey) and Tyler (Christi), and one grandchild, Briley Marie. She would like to hear from friends at vikkiwomack@yahoo.com.

Samuel G. Scheer (Master of Education) passed away in January 2007 in Birmingham, Alabama. Mrs. Scheer would like to thank those of you who were there.

1978

Jeri O'Neal Michie (B.S. Education) has obtained many degrees since graduating from Georgia Southern. She has an M.Ed. Middle School, an Ed.S. Middle School, an M.Ed. Administration, and an Ed.S. Administration from Valdosta State. After graduating from Georgia Southern, Jeri worked in Colquitt County as a middle school teacher, assistant principal, and 14 years as an elementary school principal at Okapilco Elementary School. Jeri married Scott Michie in 1980. While working in Colquitt County, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year in 1980 and 1987, and was a Teacher of the Year county finalist. In 2005 Jeri retired and moved to Sandestin, Fla, where she is the principal of Gateway Academy, a private Christian school in Miramar Beach, Fla. Jeri's son Bradley Michie is currently attending Georgia Southern University working on a degree in construction management. If you would like to get in touch with Jeri, you can email her at michie@destingatewayacademy.com.

1986

Neil Aspinwall (Ed.D. Educational Leadership, Ed.S. School Administration and Supervision, M.Ed. School Administration, B.S.Ed. Technology Education) is currently serving as the vice president of enrollment and student services at Waycross College. You can contact him by email at aspinwall@waycross.edu.

1987

Kelly Burke (M.Ed. Secondary Science) was selected as Cherokee County's Teacher of the Year after teaching 22 years in the physics classroom. Kelly teaches AP physics, sponsors the National Honor Society, and serves as the department chair for science at Woodstock High School. You can contact Kelly at Kelly.burke@cherokee.k12.ga.us.

1991

Neil Jeffrey Koven (Ed.S. Administration and Supervision) taught 13 years at Balse Elementary School in Phoenix, Ariz., and he served as assistant principal of Diamond Elementary School at Ft. Stewart for seven and one-half years. After 15 years as principal of Cannon Falls Area Elementary School, Neil retired in 2009.

1996

George Bickert (Ed.S. Special Education) also has a M.Ed. that he received in 1994. George is currently serving as principal of Crownpoint High School on the Navajo Nation. For the past three years, he was principal at Tohatchi Elementary School, helping lead the school out of restructuring status by making AYP the past two years. The success of Tohatchi Elementary School has been featured by the Associated Press and by Voice of America. George can be contacted by email at gbickert@gmcs.k12.nm.us.

1998

Frederick Bridges (B.S. Middle Grade Education) taught for seven years in the Dekalb County School System after attending Georgia Southern University. He joined SRA/McGraw-Hill as a K-12 account manager in the New York/New Jersey territory. In 2007, Frederick and his family relocated to the Atlanta metro area where he joined Xerox AV to represent SMART Technology solutions in Georgia. In July of 2009, he joined Promethean Inc., as the SE Channel Manager for Arkansas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. His teaching experience allows him to relate and understand the current demands on teachers to provide a wholesome learning environment for every "DIGITAL NATIVE." Frederick can be contacted by email at Frederick.bridges@prometheanworld.com.

Cynthia Smith Edenfield (Ed. Specialist) worked at Swainsboro Technical College as the ECE Program Coordinator and Center Director for over 14 years. She also was the ECE Program Coordinator at Ogeechee Technical College for two years. Cynthia is currently employed at Georgia Southern University. She is considered "Nana" by four wonderful grandchildren.

2000

Jenne Todd Leppard (B.S. Education) has been teaching in Glynn County since 2001. She taught at Good Year Elementary School for two years and has been at C. B. Greer Elementary School for seven years. Currently Jenne is teaching 4th grade. In June 2003, Jenne married a fellow Georgia Southern graduate, and they had their first baby boy, Owen Christopher, in June 2009. Jenne can be contacted by email at ladybugjen@gmail.com.

2001

Hollie Helane Goggans Sisk (B.S. Special Education, M.Ed. Instructional Technology) and her husband, Jon Sisk (2000 graduate) recently moved to Houston County. Jon is currently teaching middle school technology after nine years of teaching high school, and Hollie is currently serving as a media specialist in an elementary setting. They both love their new roles and are both working on their specialist degree in teaching and learning. If you would like to contact Hollie, email her at hollie.sisk@hcbe.net.

William Harold Roach, Jr. (Ed.S. Leadership) has been the principal of Bryan County High School since 2006. He can be reached by email at hroach@bryan.k12.ga.us.

2005

Jennifer Groover Cardella (B.S. Early Childhood Education) had a new baby, Matthew Robert Cardella, Jr., who was born December 29, 2008. You can contact Jennifer by email at jgcardella@yahoo.com.

2006

Jessica Shaffer Crawford (B.S. Early Childhood Education) is currently employed at Springfield Elementary School. Since graduating from Georgia Southern University, Jessica earned her master's from NOVA Southeastern University in October 2009, and she began NOVA's education specialist program in May 2010. Both degrees are in the BrainSMART program, brain based teaching and learning. You can contact Jessica at je_ra_sh313@yahoo.com.

2008

Heather Arthurs Huling (B.S. Early Childhood Education) is currently working on her M.Ed. in Reading Education at Georgia Southern University. While working on her degree, Heather is also a teacher at Sallie Zetterower Elementary School in Statesboro, GA.

2009

Amanda Hart (B.S. Early Childhood Education) is currently teaching dance and preschool gymnastics at her old dance studio. In dance, she teaches girls ages 3 to 18; and in gymnastics, she teaches boys and girls ages 18 months to 5 years old. This past year, Amanda started a jazz class for girls in grades 3-5, and she is working on improving the dance program for the middle/high school group. Amanda can't wait to see her students perform on the same stage she used to perform on at their age. You can get in touch with Amanda by email at mandru7687@gmail.com.

Mary Ann Rogers (M.A.T) is currently working in Long County as a seventh grade English teacher. You can contact her by email at mrogers@long.k12.ga.us.

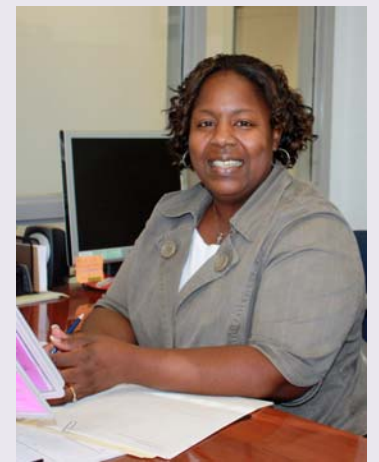
Audrey Hagans Sharpe (B.S. Early Childhood Education) graduated in 2009. Since then she has gotten married and is seeking employment in the Chatham County area.

Zach Taylor (M.A.T Secondary Education) is currently working at Georgia's only LEED Certified Environmentally Sustainable High School, teaching AP world history. At the school they implement an ECI model where students learn about the interaction of natural and social systems of the environment. They investigate local topics and find solutions to them. It is the only high school in the country that uses this ECI model. You can contact Zach at ZachTaylor07@gmail.com.

STAFF NEWS

Tabitha Anderson Receives COE Staff Award

Tabitha Anderson was presented with the *Betty-Ware Wray College of Education Staff Award* at the opening faculty/staff meeting on August 11, 2010. The award annually recognizes a COE staff member who has excelled in job performance and University service, and the recipient receives a plaque and \$500 prize. From spring 2006, Anderson served as administrative secretary in the Department of Leadership, Technology, and Human Development. She is known for always being pleasant and helpful and for following through to make sure that problems were addressed appropriately. Both students and faculty knew they could count on her for help and support in almost any situation. On September 27, 2010, Anderson moved to the Office of the Provost and will continue providing exemplary service to the University in her new administrative secretary role there.



Coco Roberts joined the COE in May 2010 as undergraduate administrative coordinator. Her responsibilities with undergraduate programs/faculty/students include facilitating key assessment data; support for the use of TaskStream within undergraduate programs; assisting with annual program reports; assisting with the work of the Georgia Center for Educational Renewal; and supporting and assisting coordinators of COE undergraduate programs. Before joining the College, Roberts worked at Georgia Southern with the Eagle Card Center.



McKenzie Cary joined the COE in September 2010 as the Student Success Center's newest academic advisor. She advises undergraduate majors in middle grades education, health and PE, and early childhood education (W-Z). Cary came to the COE from the admissions office where she was a recruiter.



Darlene Collins joined the COE in October 2010 as administrative secretary in the Department of Leadership, Technology, and Human Development. Collins provides support for the department's faculty and six graduate programs. Since 2005, she had worked at Georgia Southern in the Department of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

Faculty Promotions

Effective August 2010, the following faculty received promotions in rank:

Dr. Terry Diamanduros to associate professor of school psychology

Dr. Barbara Mallory to associate professor of educational leadership

Upcoming Conferences

<http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/conferences.html>

National Reading Conference (NRC) Annual Conference

December 1-4, 2010 Fort Worth, Texas
<http://www.nrconline.org/conference.html>

10th Annual Southeastern Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling and Education

February 11-12, 2011 Savannah, GA
<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/ccissues.html>

National Association of School Psychologists 2011 Annual Convention

February 22-25, 2011 San Francisco, CA
<http://www.nasponline.org/conventions/index.aspx>

22nd Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference

March 6-9, 2011 Savannah, GA
<http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/nationalyouthatrisk.html>

American Counseling Association Conference and Exposition

March 23-27, 2011 New Orleans, Louisiana
<http://www.counseling.org/Convention/>

Randy Carlson, chair of the Dept. of Leadership, Technology, and Human Development is pictured on page 5.

ALUMNI: WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?



Name: _____
First Middle Last Maiden

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Check if it is okay to publish your email address.

Graduation Date: _____ Degree/Major: _____

What have you been doing that we can share with other alumni?

Please complete this form and return it to: *Southern Educator*, P.O. Box 8133, Statesboro, GA 30460-8133 or use the online form at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/alumniform07.html>

Southern Educator Begins Electronic Delivery

Beginning with this issue, alumni with active e-mail addresses on file with Georgia Southern's Alumni Office will receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Our goal still is to reach all College of Education alumni, so those without a known e-mail address will continue to receive a paper copy. If you would like to save some trees and help us cut the cost of postage, please send your e-mail address to the Alumni Office at jwest@georgiasouthern.edu or to the COE at dscolson@georgiasouthern.edu.

View *Southern Educator* online 24/7 at coe.georgiasouthern.edu/news.html#newsletter