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Southern Educator

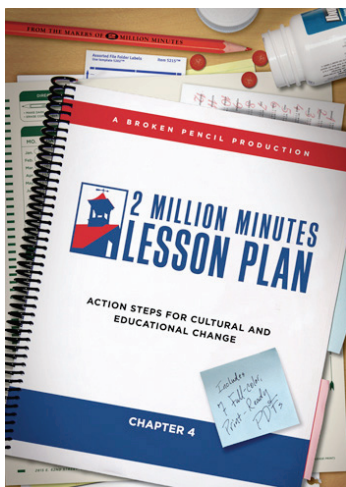
College of Education • Georgia Southern University

Volume 19

<http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu>

Fall 2008

“Two Million Minutes” producer to speak at Georgia Southern



Broken Pencil Productions

Robert A. Compton, creator and executive producer of the documentary film “Two Million Minutes,” will be at Georgia Southern University on Thursday, November 13, to introduce the screening of his provocative work. Following the hour-long film, he will provide additional comments and respond to audience questions. Compton’s presentation will begin at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center, corner of Plant Drive and Chandler Road in Statesboro, and it is free and open to the public. Educators are encouraged to attend.

“This film, combined with Robert Compton’s discussion, is a tremendous opportunity to learn more about the universal importance of education today,” said Cindi Chance, dean of the College of Education at Georgia Southern. “U.S. schools are facing chronically low scores in math and science, and this film underscores the importance of addressing this issue immediately.”

Compton estimates that young people around the world spend two million minutes in four years of high school. In exploring the many ways that high school students in China, India, and the United States use this time, he searches for answers to the film’s primary question: Are we doing enough with the time our students spend in school to ensure the best future for all?

“Two Million Minutes” profiles six high school students, two in the U.S., two in India, and two in China, to learn how they spend their high school years. While all face common adolescent pressures, how they use their academic time varies in each culture.

In addition to the students, the film includes interviews with specialists in education, math, science, economics, and business from all three nations.

Robert Compton has had a distinguished business career as a venture capitalist, as former president of a New York Stock Exchange company, as the entrepreneur founder of four companies, and as an investor in more than a dozen businesses. After traveling the world extensively in 2005 and 2006, he was inspired to author a blog, publish a book titled “Blogging through India,” and to create “Two Million Minutes.”

Compton’s presentation at Georgia Southern is funded by a grant from the Campus Life Enrichment Committee (CLEC). Arrangements are being organized by Dr. Brenda Marina (bmarina@georgiasouthern.edu) in the College of Education. For information on the film, visit <http://www.2mminutes.com/about.html>.

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COE Faculty Awards Presented



Dr. Lorraine S. Gilpin received the Jack Miller Educator of the Year Award at the opening faculty meeting on August 13. Presented annually to a member of the COE faculty for exceptional overall achievement, the award is based on demonstrated excellence in the areas of teaching, service, and scholarship over the three-year period of review.

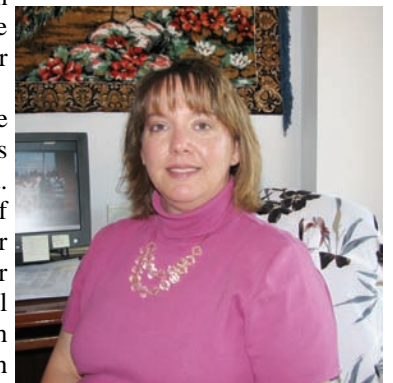
Dr. Gilpin is an associate professor of early childhood education in the Department of Teaching and Learning. She has taught a variety of courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, supervised Methods I students, and worked to develop and implement online courses using multiple technologies. She consistently receives high ratings on course evaluations by students, and she has developed a departmental mentoring program for teacher education students needing extra guidance. Dr. Gilpin has served on many Ed.S. and Ed.D. committees and during summer terms has been a key instructor for the BESST (Be Engaged in Social Studies Teaching) teacher workshops. Her scholarly publications and presentations focus on multi-cultural topics and teaching culturally diverse students. Also, Dr. Gilpin is a manuscript reviewer for *Curriculum Inquiry*.

Three other faculty awards were presented at the opening fall meeting recognizing each recipient’s accomplishments over the previous three-year period.

Dr. Dana Sparkman, assistant professor of early childhood education, received the Jack Miller Award for Teaching. The award recognizes her dedication as a teacher-practitioner, her skillful teaching focused on student learning, her work with partner schools, and her support of students with difficulties.

Dr. Maggie LaMontagne, associate professor of special education, received the Jack Miller Award for Service. Her record of service includes activities at the department, college, university, and national levels. She has provided leadership for the Council for Exceptional Children, the national professional organization for special education. Currently, in the Department of Teaching and Learning, her expertise is used to coordinate departmental assessment, admissions for all graduate programs, and the graduate special education program.

Dr. Susan Trimble, professor of middle grades education, received the Jack Miller Award for Scholarship and Creative Activity. She is very active in national publications for key journals in education including serving on boards which review publications. The focus of her own research is on teacher leadership, data analysis, and school improvement. In recent years, she has had two or three publications per year in national journals.





This is a special Dean's Corner message. It is with very mixed emotions that I share with you that this is my last one. I have requested that I step aside for new leadership for the College after June 30.

As you all know about institutions, there are two ruling concepts—institutional history (the way we have always done things) and new foci (seeking better ways). After several years in a position, even creative leaders become a part of institutional history and tend to focus on the here and now—looking down instead of upward and outward. I have requested to step up to faculty next year to avoid becoming that kind of leader.

I have loved every minute of working with the best faculty, staff, students, and alumni in the world. Thanks to all of you, the College has grown in ways that I could not have dreamed. I have made professional and personal friends that have impacted my life in so many positive ways. Sometimes my poetry expresses my feelings better than my spoken words.

A Lasting Friendship, A Treasure

*What can be more beautiful than a
Harpist and symphony playing a sweet melody,
Waterfalls and rainbows shared with friends,
Or raindrops dancing on the window at dawn?
These, though extraordinarily beautiful, are paled by a lasting friendship
A friendship that makes no demands,
That shares ecstasy and personal expectations at the same moment,
A friendship that reinforces both the giver and the receiver,
Through sharing a touch, a smile or a look that exemplifies agape.
Music ultimately becomes silent
Waterfalls and rainbows are temporary and fickle
They disappear in the sunlight or shadows.
But the beauty of a friendship never fades.
It is enhanced by every encounter and memory.
A lasting friendship is truly one of life's greatest treasures.*

Cindi Chance, 2008

Thank you for your support of the College of Education through your talents, time, and your financial resources. But most of all thank you for your personal and professional friendship that has impacted my life in so many positive ways. I am excited about being a faculty member in this wonderful College for several years. Come see me in my new role after July 1.



Sino-American Education Consortium moves to Georgia Southern

The Sino-American Education Consortium is now housed at Georgia Southern University in the College of Education. Dr. Cindi Chance serves as executive director, and Dr. Judi Repman is associate director. Based on friendship and equality, the purpose of this consortium is to improve education and teacher education in China and the United States. Previous host locations included Kennesaw State University, Western Kentucky University, Iowa State University, Mississippi State University, the University of Toledo and Eastern Michigan University.

For other details, see the consortium's Web site at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/sino-american/>. Also, see the article on page 5 about the consortium's May 2008 conference.

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Accomplishments 2007-2008

- Removal of all PSC Areas for Improvement
- Record number of undergraduate and graduate students
- New M.Ed. Ed. Leadership program approved
- New Ed.S. Ed. Leadership program approved
- New Ed. Leadership Teacher Leader Endorsement approved
- Implemented Accomplished Teacher & Instructional Technology Franchise Programs
- Revised Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies
- Revised and reorganized MAT Program
- Revised T&L key assessments to align with GA Framework
- Revised Ed.S. Guidelines
- T&L implemented MARS student mentoring program
- T&L Ed.S. offered completely on-line
- ILEP grant funded and implemented
- Continuation of PRISM grant
- Teacher Quality Grants
- Standards-Based Physical Science for High School Teachers grant
- Implementing Middle Grades GPS in Heart of Georgia grant
- Background check policy for undergraduate & graduate programs developed
- Georgia Conference on Information Literacy, October 2007
- 8th Annual Southeastern Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling and Education, February 2008
- 19th Annual Youth-At-Risk Conference, March 2008
- Educational Renewal Conference, Wuhan, China, May 2008
- Dr. Meng Deng, Fulbright scholar in residence at GSU with Special Ed Program
- Licensed Professional Counselors Association named most outstanding state association in the USA
- Implemented TaskStream in all undergraduate programs
- Implementation of Digital Measures
- Development and implementation of online induction program
- Student Success Center/Undergraduate Teacher Education developed Banner-based demographic tracking system for undergraduate programs including transition points
- Southern's Art Extravaganza exhibit of artwork by P-12 students
- COE Homecoming activities and other alumni events
- Implementation of Area F
- Expansion of International Study Opportunities (ISO) with student teaching exchanges for Georgia Southern and Great Britain students
- COE smart classrooms
- Update of COE classroom furniture—tables that move
- PSC training
- College-wide Assessment Policy developed
- Organized college assessment and research committees
- Development of a college-wide graduate level dispositions assessment
- Created and implemented a graduate level assessment data collection and reporting system
- NNER leadership
- Georgia Center for Educational Renewal (GCER) facilitated training for Leaders for Teachers Preparing Schools (LTPS), League of Democratic Schools (LODS)
- GCER added nine members to the NNER Tripartite from COE, CLASS, & P-12; and added 25 U.S. schools to the International Network for Educational Transformation (iNet)
- GCER assisted numerous faculty with grant writing
- Lean Six Green Belt Training for Dr. Chance & Dr. Rittschof—a retention, progression and graduation (RPG) initiative
- Jeff Palis, Fulbright Scholar, Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies student
- Sherry Smith received university's staff Award of Merit

WELCOME NEW FACULTY



Karen D. Chassereau, instructor in the Department of Teaching and Learning – Ms. Chassereau earned the B.S.Ed. and M.Ed. in secondary science education at Georgia Southern University and is currently working on an Ed.D. in curriculum studies with emphasis in cultural studies, particularly science and technology. She has eight years experience teaching at the high school level and holds teacher certification in science (6-12) and gifted in-field. Ms. Chassereau was a temporary instructor for the college during the 07/08 academic year and this fall became a permanent member of the Department of Teaching and Learning.



James E. Green, professor of educational leadership – Dr. Green holds a B.A. in English and M.S. in school administration from Missouri State University. His Ph.D. in education was completed at Saint Louis University, and he earned an M.F.A. in creative writing at Antioch University. Dr. Green began his career as a high school English teacher. He served as assistant principal and superintendent before moving to teaching and administrator positions in higher education. His most recent appointment was with Azusa Pacific University. Dr. Green's current areas of specialization are leadership theory, organizational development, and ethics. He is author or co-author of three books and dozens of refereed articles in national journals, and he is a published poet in literary venues in the U.S., England, and Ireland.



Arline Edwards-Joseph, assistant professor in counselor education – Dr. Edwards-Joseph holds a B.A. in psychology and M.A. in education, guidance counseling, from North Carolina Central University. Her Ph.D. in counselor education was completed at North Carolina State University in a CACREP accredited program. Her dissertation is titled *The relationship between the academic self-efficacy and culture shock among Caribbean overseas college students attending universities in the United States*. She also has earned certificates in addiction treatment from Laban's Addiction Specific Trainings, an

NBCC approved program. Dr. Edwards-Joseph has teaching experience at post-secondary institutions in North Carolina and Antigua, and has individual and group counseling experience. She is a national certified counselor and holds state of North Carolina school counseling certification.



Robert L. Lake, assistant professor of social foundations – Dr. Lake holds a B.S. in instructing English as a second language from Empire State College, Saratoga, NY, and a M.S. in teaching English as a second language from University at Albany, SUNY. His Ed.D. was completed at Georgia Southern University with his dissertation titled *Above Walls: Toward a curriculum of the imagination in an era of standardization*. Dr. Lake's professional experience includes ESL teacher and adult literacy instructor in public schools and GED instructor and reading department chair at technical colleges. In August 2006, he joined the College of Education's Department of Curriculum, Foundations, and Reading as a full-time temporary instructor and this fall became a permanent member of that department.



Teri Melton, assistant professor of educational leadership – Dr. Melton holds a B.A. in English, secondary education, from the University of New York at Albany; an M.S. in educational leadership, multidisciplinary studies, from the University of New York at Buffalo College; and an Ed.D. in educational leadership from Lehigh University. Her work experience includes CEO and general manager of Marquis Industries, Ltd., staff specialist on public safety for the governor's cabinet in Virginia, and agency management analyst for the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. She was a math teacher, school director and superintendent for the International School of Sosua, a US-accredited international school in the Dominican Republic, and in higher education, Dr. Melton has held faculty appointments at Lehigh University and Barry University.



Heather Scott, instructor in the Department of Teaching and Learning – Ms. Scott holds a B.S. in zoology from the University of Georgia and an M.A. in museum science from Texas Tech University. She has worked in collections management of a natural history museum and worked on a CDC sponsored field crew surveying New Mexican rodents for Hantavirus. Ms. Scott has teaching experience as a secondary science teacher and in 2001 was Science Teacher of the Year nominee for New Mexico. In 06/07 and 07/08, she was a temporary instructor for the College of Education and in fall 2008 became a permanent member of the Department of Teaching and Learning.

COE welcomes Muskie Fellow



Saïda Akbarova, a Muskie Fellow from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, has joined the Georgia Southern student body this fall as a graduate student in the College of Education. Akbarova will be earning a Master's in Educational Leadership.

Akbarova already holds a bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. in linguistics from The Uzbek State World Language University. She was on the faculty of that institution teaching a variety of subjects including practical English for translation, current events, British and American Literature, and country studies. She supervised undergraduate students working on their bachelor's thesis and also worked with master's students. Akbarova says that she was often asked if she had visited the United States but had only watched videos and dreamed of visiting the U.S. It was a dream come true to be selected as one of 145 fellows from 3,000 applicants and to be one of the ten fellows from Uzbekistan.

After a four day orientation in Washington D.C., Akbarova arrived in Statesboro on August 4. During the next two years, she will complete the educational leadership degree and a minimum of forty hours of community service. She looks forward to helping at the National Youth-At-Risk Conference, and knowing that similar concerns exist in her country, she hopes to be able to establish a similar conference there upon her return. As a member of Georgia Southern's Global Ambassadors, she will visit local schools and make presentations about her country. While here, she also hopes to initiate a "Russian speaking countries" organization so faculty, students, and community members can practice Russian conversation and learn more about those countries.

Akbarova said she is "happy to be in a place with such a deep educational heritage." She has studied the history of higher education, but being here and seeing how everything works is different. She looks forward to studying the theory of student services and finding models of student services, teacher training, and professional development materials that might be implemented in Uzbekistan.

Established by the U.S. Congress in 1992 and sponsored by the U.S. State Department, the Muskie Scholar Fellowship encourages economic and democratic growth in Eurasia. Akbarova plans to return to her home country upon receiving her master's degree and will use her knowledge to build better communities there.

Educational Leadership

The Educational Leadership Program is pleased to announce the offering of five new programs beginning in fall 2008. The Professional Standards Commission (PSC) has approved the new programs which are designed to train and develop school leaders for Georgia's schools. In developing the new programs, professors in COE's educational leadership program worked closely with RESA Director Shelly Smith and area superintendents in partnership, along with Dianne Bath, visiting director of the Georgia Center for Educational Renewal.

The new master's degree in educational leadership is a 36-hour program. Most of the courses are online, and plans are to offer a fully online M.Ed. in the near future. The program has enrolled teachers and aspiring school administrators, who should complete the program after five semesters and a passing score on the new Georgia content assessment (GACE). The new certification rules and new standards have driven the need for redesigning the master's degree program. In addition, the NL-5 add-on program will prepare aspiring leaders for the new GACE assessment. The NL-5 add-on program is offered to students who have a master's degree in an area other than educational leadership and seek to add leadership to their certificate in Georgia. For those who need additional information, they may inquire by emailing Dr. Barbara Mallory at bmallory@georgiasouthern.edu.

The new education specialist degree (Ed.S.) is a performance-based program (33 hours) which allows candidates enrolled in the program to complete their degree requirements doing much of the work of educational leaders (either building or district level) in real time in their real setting. The Ed.S. Program was designed in partnership with area superintendents, and the candidates who enroll must have assurance of district support in completing the residency, a major component of the program. The Ed.S. is a "fall-admit only" program. The educational leadership faculty welcomed its first cohort fall 2008, with plans to begin the second cohort in fall 2009.

The Teacher Leader Endorsement is also being offered by the educational leadership program. School renewal is dependent upon the vital role of teacher leadership capacity, and the new endorsement program is one of the few being offered in Georgia.

All of these programs, in addition to the doctoral degree (Ed.D.), feature deep development of school leaders in Theory Y leadership—and it is the belief of the faculty that every school deserves an Eagle Leader!

— Barbara Mallory

Braz participates in Faculty Exchange

During spring 2008, Dr. Michael Braz, professor in Georgia Southern's Department of Music, participated in a faculty exchange with Central China Normal University (CCNU), Wuhan, China. He gave seven lectures (two for education and five for music), among which was a panel on "The Future of Music Education."

Dr. Braz observed kindergarten and special-needs classes, and taught English songs, rhythm exercises, and Kodaly hand signals (the first five notes of a scale, with Chinese numbers) to two kindergarten classes. A number of CCNU students took advantage of his office hours, asking numerous questions, commenting on past lectures, or simply practicing their English.



College of Education's Board of Advisors



was elected to the executive committee as vice-chair. BOA sub-committee activities will include work on the identification of new members and BOA development projects.

The College of Education's Board of Advisors (BOA) held its fall meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2008. Dr. Marie Hooks, BOA chair, opened the meeting and welcomed members.

Pictured is Russell Keen, director of the university's Governmental Relations Office, presenting information to the board. Dean Cindi Chance spoke on "The state of the COE," and COE associate deans and department chairs updated board members on COE activities and events.

Dr. Hooks will continue as BOA Chair through 2009, and Dr. Mary Sue Smith

COE's NNER Tripartite

Georgia Southern University is a member of the National Network for Education Renewal (NNER), an organization dedicated to the simultaneous renewal of schools in partnership with colleges of education. The guiding conscience of the organization is a tripartite structure consisting of representatives from P-12 public schools, colleges of education, and arts and sciences, working in collaboration to learn and support each other in providing students the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become fully engaged participants in our democratic society.

Georgia Southern's College of Education hosts its tripartite through the Georgia Center for Educational Renewal. This tripartite is growing as more and more professionals are joining in the conversation about the important work we all do to educate students. Our public school representatives are Dr. Jody Woodrum, assistant superintendent Bulloch County Schools; Eileen Baynes, principal of Stilson Elementary School; Daniel Edenfield, academic coordinator of Bulloch County Performance Learning Center; Marlin Baker, principal of Brooklet Elementary School. University representatives from the College of Education and the arts and sciences are Dr. Stephanie Kenney, Dr. Caren Town, Dr. Kathy Albertson, Dr. Olivia Carr Edenfield, Dr. Robert Lake, Dr. Barbara Mallory, Dr. Judith Repman, Dr. Fred Rich, Ms. Pat Parsons, and Ms. Dianne Bath.

The group has worked to put together an equity survey to be administered in the public school settings, university settings, and broader community during the 2008-09 school term. The information gathered will guide some of the work of the group. We have two schools that have joined the League of Democratic Schools (LODS), Stilson Elementary and the Bulloch County Performance Center. We joined with Miami University of Ohio, Penn State, and their partner schools to hold the first Eastern Region League of Democratic Schools Conference in Ohio. Those attending were able to visit Central Academy, a public school operating with democratic principles at the heart of all its work with students, faculty, staff, parents, and community.

The tripartite continues to support training for school leaders and now has seven people who have attended Leaders of Teacher Preparing Schools. Dr. Town is serving on an initial planning committee to begin an NNER journal. Dr. Kenney and Ms. Bath participated in the Advancing Education in a Democracy scholars group led by Dr. John Goodlad. There is continued work with the Portal community as they plan and work for the betterment of their community with the young and old citizens at the heart of the work.

Tripartite members look forward to future work together and invite interested parties to join by contacting Dianne Bath at dbath@georgiasouthern.edu.

— Dianne Bath

SPAGE NEWS

Melanie Denise Lockett, early childhood education major, received the SPAGE John Robert and Barbara Moore Lindsey Scholarship for 08/09. She was also elected as a statewide officer for Student PAGE (SPAGE) and sworn in at the PAGE summer conference. The statewide SPAGE officers serve as an advisory board to determine the direction for the 10,000-member student organization.



Can you guess who this COE member is? See answer on page 7

Faculty Member Retires

Dr. Diana J. Hammitte, retired at the end of spring semester 2008 having served the university and college since 1994. Dr. Hammitte was professor of special education in the Department of Teaching and Learning. She taught undergraduate and graduate special education courses and was the program's coordinator for many years.



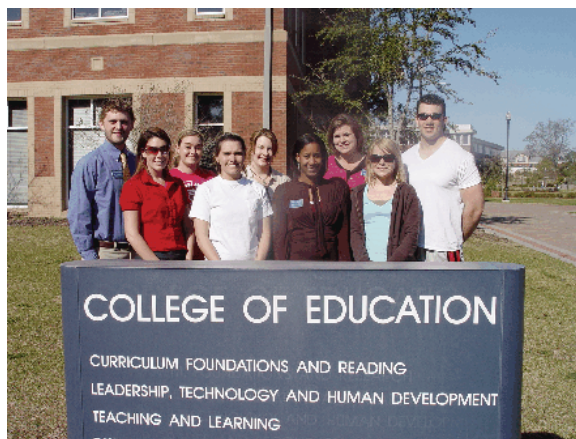
Student Teacher Exchanges

Nine College of Education student teachers completed the last month of their spring semester student teaching experience participating in the International Study Opportunity (ISO).

Five 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 the remaining four student teachers representing the middle grades and special education programs.

In November 2008, three College of Education student teachers will spend the month learning more about education in England by participating in the ISO program.

Pictured are spring '08 student teachers, (l-r) Chip Stephens, Michaela Beauchamp, Lindsey Pridgen, Brittany Reid, Jessica Waters, Mia Dobbs, Catherine Wood, Tiffany Barrett, and Bivins Miller.



In January, Georgia Southern and three school partners hosted six teacher candidates from Sheffield Hallam University in Sheffield, England. The six early childhood candidates completed field experiences at Sallie Zetterower, Brooklet Elementary, and Springfield Elementary Schools.

Pictured with Pat Parsons, director of field experiences and partnerships,



are Amie Dickinson, Lisa Poole, Danielle Hilton, Siobhan Wilkinson, Gabbie Stanley, and Kirsty Blazquez. A highlight of their experience was riding on a yellow school bus.

Georgia Southern looks forward to hosting six more teacher candidates from Sheffield Hallam in January '09.

International Leadership in Education Program - 2008

The College of Education at Georgia Southern University hosted 18 secondary English teachers during spring, 2008, as part of the International Leadership in Education Program (ILEP). This was the second year that the ILEP, a program of the U.S. Department of State, was funded at Georgia Southern, and we were one of only three institutions in the U.S. to host this program. The visiting educators were from Algeria, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Morocco, and Tunisia.

The ILEP participants attended a semester-long academic program which included coursework and intensive training in teaching methodologies, curriculum development, and the use of technology for education. The program also included a school internship designed to actively immerse participants into the American classroom environment. International teachers were paired with partner teachers in middle and secondary schools in the Bulloch, Effingham, and Screven County school districts.

During the program, the international teachers participated in civic and cultural events, attended educational conferences, and visited area attractions. Highlights included traveling to the annual meeting of the National Association of Professional Development Schools in Orlando and the National Youth-At-Risk Conference in Savannah. Participants also visited Saint Simons Island, the Okefenokee Swamp, and Callaway Gardens. These educational and cultural experiences allowed them to meet a diverse group of individuals including former President Jimmy Carter and famed educator Ron Clark.

The ILEP provided an opportunity for a large number of faculty, staff, students, and citizens from the college, university, and local community to interact with and learn from these international educators. This program also allowed the College of Education to further strengthen its ties to international educators and schools, an important mission of the college and university. Thanks to all of the individuals both on- and off-campus who gave their time and effort to make this program such a success!

— Cordelia Zinskie



The College of Education Goes to Wuhan: A Report about the Conference on Educational Renewal and School Development in an Era of Cultural Diversity

On May 16, 2008, eleven COE faculty members, along with two COE students and eight other Georgia Southern faculty and staff members, were part of a 70-member international delegation to the Conference on Educational Renewal and School Development in an Era of Cultural Diversity held in Wuhan, China. Georgia Southern's College of Education co-hosted and organized this international gathering as part of our partnership with Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan.

The conference was a life-changing experience for everyone who attended! When we arrived on campus, we discovered banners flying over the street promoting the conference in English and Chinese, and we were soon greeted by 300+ delegates from China. Conference delegates were able to take part in a variety of sessions relating to educational reform around the world and heard four outstanding keynote speakers who addressed the topic from a variety of perspectives.

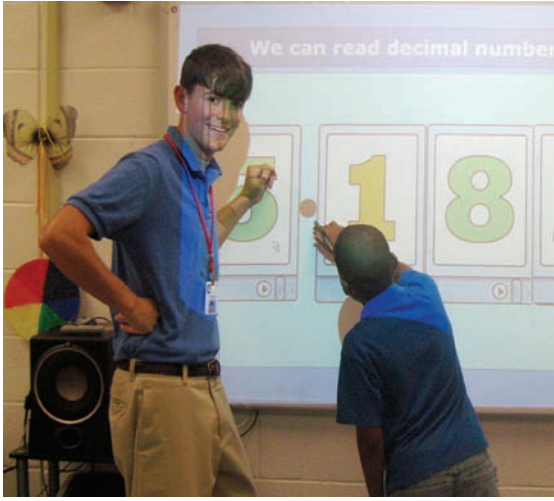
While there were many highlights to this experience, the day when delegates were able to tour a middle/high school and an elementary school certainly stands out. Both schools were huge—the high school had over 4,000 students and the elementary school had 3,000+ pupils. At each school we were greeted by student representatives who enthusiastically guided us around their schools and answered all of our questions in English. An elementary school performance group called “The Beautiful Blossoming Flowers” entertained us with musical and dramatic performances. The other highlight was the opportunity to interact with faculty and students of Huazhong Normal University. The students at HNU also treated us to a wonderful evening of music, and the entire faculty and students did everything they could to make the conference enjoyable and productive.

— Judi Repman

First Day of School Survival Guide

First year teachers, buckle your seat belts. The first day of school will be a wild, up and down, rollercoaster ride full of adventure. For those of you who may think that your first day will be full of valuable lessons learned, you're right. However, it won't be the students learning this day, it will be you. The students will teach you so much about yourself. You will learn how flexible you can be, if you can multitask, how loud your voice can truly get, and most importantly...how much you sweat under pressure. And you thought you would be the teacher this year.

First of all, I hope you have been proactive over your summer break. No matter what you thought you learned about prefixes and root words in grade school, the term "pre-planning" does not mean before you plan. You need to have your room set up, your parent letter copied, and plenty of worksheets for the students to sit down and complete while you are getting all of the back-to-school paperwork together. Make sure you have a checklist for health, Internet, handbooks, and student information forms that you receive.



Once you have sorted through the mountain of paperwork, you can finally get to know your students. Plan some fun activities like classmate bingo, name games, and summer vacation stories, just to name a few. Then you can try to settle your students back down and lay out some procedures. Don't worry...you will be doing this everyday for the first two weeks.

Finally, when you think that you have finished all that you were going to do that day, look up at the clock. Now that you have realized that the group is in your room for about another hour, and you have finished your lesson plans for that day...freak out! I hope that you have a back-up plan or can think fast on your feet.

Notice that I have said "you" in this entire article. That's right, YOU. No matter how many times you turn around for some back up, help, or suggestions, Lone Ranger, "Tonto has left your side." Now you truly are all alone. These 23 students are your responsibility for the rest of the year, all 180 days of it. They will depend on you every second they are at school. You are their teacher. Welcome to the "real world"...and hold on tight.

— Brad Boykin, B.S.Ed., Spring '08
5th Grade, Screven County Elementary

Teach-opoly

November 7 and February 3

At these one-day on-campus events, future educators who are currently high school students will have the opportunity to tour campus, meet with professors and advisors from the College of Education, and talk to real students pursuing a degree in education.

Full details and registration information is available online at <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/dayoncampus.html>

Norris B. Strickland posthumously honored

The late Jesup, Georgia, businessman Norris B. Strickland ('53) was posthumously honored with the **COE's 2008 Alumni Award**. Strickland was owner and president of Norris B. Strickland and Associates, Inc., and owner and developer of Whitepath Lodge in Ellijay, Georgia. He served on the University Foundation's Board of Trustees, as Lettermen's Club president, on the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and was Alumnus of the Year in Private Enterprise in 2004 and Alumnus of the Year for the Association in 1980.

HOMECOMING 2007 was great!

the Mystery float, the new collection for Southern's Art Extravaganza, the unveiling of the Wall of Honor



and HOMECOMING 2008 will be even better!

Friday, Nov. 7—Homecoming Parade on campus

Saturday, Nov. 8—Coffee & Donuts
(new this year/ 9-10 a.m. at the College of Education building)

Sunday, Nov. 9—the opening of 08/09's Southern's Art Extravaganza

We look forward to seeing you!

Alumni Advisory Committee

COE's Alumni Advisory Committee met on February 28 and on September 25, 2008, to plan events of interest to alumni. At the fall meeting, Chairperson Deb Miller updated the group on COE's alumni gathering at the spring Georgia Southern vs. Citadel baseball game. The committee agreed to hold this type of event again in 2009.

Members reviewed plans for Homecoming 2008. A sub-committee was formed for designing and decorating the golf-cart float for the parade on November 7. Prior to the game on November 8, the committee will sponsor a donut social at the COE Building. On November 9, *Southern's Art Extravaganza*, an exhibit of artwork by P-12 students, will open with a reception in the hallway gallery outside Room 2148 of the COE building. Members agreed to plan a COE alumni day during basketball season.

For information or if you are interested in joining the Committee, please contact Ms. Claudia Moller at ccmoller@georgiasouthern.edu.



Deb Miller (chairperson), and Bob Lake. Not pictured was Mark Petkewich.

Members attending the fall meeting were (front l-r) Deborah Thomas, Stephanie Kenney, Jan Anderson, Mandy Miles, Cordelia Zinskie, (back l-r) Claudia Moller, Todd Williford, Randy Carlson,

Southern Educator Class Roll

1950

Nancy McIntosh Pafford retired from teaching in 1995 and has written two historical novels, *White Feather* and *Cherokee Rose*. She can be contacted at whitefeathernmp@aol.com. She resides in Whittier, NC.

1965

Rose Marie Bruno Guajardo is a retired educator. She and her husband, Pete, live in Missouri City, TX and would love to hear from friends at Pguajardo_98@yahoo.com. The couple has two daughters and five grandchildren.

1974

Donna Tress Miles retired in 2007 after teaching kindergarten and pre-kindergarten for 24 years. In 2004 she adopted her daughter, Lillie, from Guatemala. They live in Pulaski, GA. She can be reached at abacaxi7476@yahoo.com.

1991

Wendy Exley Seiler is a second grade teacher at Lanier Primary. She and her husband, Charles, have a son, Cecil Wilson.

Heather McAdam Pomilio is a special education teacher with Dorchester II Schools in Summerville, SC. She is also the JV softball coach. She and her husband, Steve, live in Ladson and have a son, Dylan. She would enjoy hearing from friends at hmsb13@yahoo.com.

1993

Cathy S. Pittman (social science ed) is a high school teacher in Brunswick, GA. She has received two awards: 1995 Teacher of the Year and also the 1995 Milken Family Foundation National Educator award. She is a National Board Certified Teacher. She and her husband, David of 23 years, have two children: Drew (20), a Civil Engineering major at GA Tech, and Megan (18), an honors program student at UGA.

1995

Davena White (special ed) is a resident of Savannah, GA. She is employed with the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education.

1996

Catherine Emery (school psychology) is employed by Charlotte County Public Schools. She married Dr. Kip Emery, and they are the proud parents of Catherine Nichole Emery. She has completed her BCBA certification. "As the years pass I can't help but think of my cohorts at GSU. What a great time we all seemed to have!"

1999

Angela Rossiter (early childhood ed) is employed with Leisure Time Pool Products and resides in Savannah, GA.

2000

Nicole Riggs (early childhood ed) is a technology specialist at Lanier Primary in Pembroke, GA. She teaches the students and staff how to use technology in the classroom. Since graduating she has moved around a few times, even teaching for a while in Lexington, KY. She along with her husband and son are glad to be back in this area.

2003

Lia Grissom (special ed) works at Davis Middle School in Hall County. She is married to Jon ('99), and they reside in Jefferson, GA, with their son.

Quail Arnold (English ed) has been teaching in metro-Atlanta for the past four years with the DeKalb County school system. She recently completed her master's degree with Mercer University.

2004

Becky Rimer is a teacher in Paradise Valley Unified School District in Phoenix, AZ. She married Seth Wilson in March. She would enjoy hearing from friends at sethandbecky@gmail.com.

2005

Jennifer Cardella (early childhood ed) is employed by the Liberty County school system teaching second grade. She is married to Matt Cardella.

Kimberly McMillan (early childhood ed) is employed with the Jenkins County school system in Millen, GA. She is currently working on her master's degree.

2006

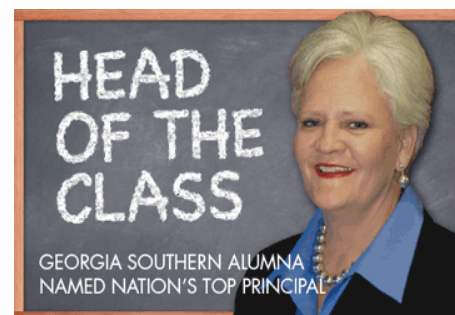
Jodi Burress (special ed) is employed by the Newton County school system in Covington, GA. She recently married John Robbins of Sylvania, GA.

2007

Alisha Anderson (business ed) is employed with the Clayton County school system in Jonesboro, GA.

Candace Ellard (middle grades ed) began teaching in January 2008 at Snelson-Golden Middle School in Hinesville, GA. She teaches 7th grade literature and grammar/writing.

Top Principal holds high expectations for her students



Dr. Molly Howard is not only principal of Jefferson County High School in Louisville, Ga., but also now carries the title of the nation's top principal.

Howard, a 2000 graduate of Georgia Southern University's College of Graduate Studies and College of Education with an Ed.D. in Educational Administration, was named the **2008 Principal of the Year** by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and MetLife.

The MetLife/NASSP Principal of the Year program began in 1993 as a means to recognize outstanding middle level and high school principals. The program honors secondary school principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality learning opportunities for students and made exemplary contributions to the profession.

"At Jefferson County High School, we believe it is our responsibility to have high expectations for all students," says Howard on her school's Web site. "We also believe it is our responsibility to offer personalized support so every student has what they need to reach their highest potential. We ask that students accept their responsibility and use the resources we afford them. We ask that students do their part."

Howard notes that parents play just as big a part in the education experience as teachers and school systems. "At Jefferson County High School, we ask parents to accept their responsibility by ensuring their children come prepared to learn and encouraging them to use the resources we provide."

The national principals of the year are selected from the State Principals of the Year representing the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity and will receive a \$5,000 grant.



New Teacher Award Winner

Ashley Crosby is the 2008 Georgia Power New Teacher Assistance Grant award winner from Georgia Southern. Ashley is pictured with family members, Associate Dean Stephanie Kenney, and Georgia Power administrators at the awards luncheon held in Atlanta. Ashley graduated in fall 2007 as a secondary education chemistry teacher and now teaches chemistry at Statesboro High School.

In addition to the recognition for being top in her class academically, she received \$1,000 to purchase materials for her new classroom. One item Ashley has purchased is a digital camera to be used to enhance her instruction.

In addition to Ashley, the 2008 Georgia Southern University nominees were Meredith Fulkerson, Jessika Massengale, Bivins Miller, Jemelleh Nurse, and Whitney Tankersley.

The page 4 picture is of Dr. Cindi Chance, dean of the college

One-Room School House News

COE alumna **Jan Brown Anderson** was presented with the **National Historic Preservation Medal** by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), for her preservation of Oak Grove School, one of Georgia's few remaining one-room schools. Ms. Anderson now conducts programs at the site about teaching and learning in the day of the one-room school. The school site is located approximately 10 miles south of Statesboro, GA. Class visits are welcome and can be tailored to the students' grade level. For reservations, pictures of the site, lesson plans, and other information, see <http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/oneroomschool/>.

A scholarship fund honoring the school has been established. To make a contribution, contact Mary Egger at 912-478-5200 or mail a check to the Georgia Southern Foundation, P.O. Box 8053, Statesboro, GA 30460. Checks should be made out to the Georgia Southern University Foundation with **Oak Grove One-Room School House Scholarship fund** noted on the check.

STAFF UPDATES



University's Award of Merit Presented to Smith

At the April 2008 Staff Awards of Excellence Ceremony, Sherry Smith was one of nine individuals to receive the highest staff award at the university. The Staff Merit Award recognizes regular classified and professional staff employees for their outstanding job performance at

Georgia Southern. The award is sponsored by the Personnel Advisory Council, and recipients receive a \$1,000 check and a medallion acknowledging their outstanding and meritorious service. Ms. Smith is administrative secretary in the Office of Undergraduate Teacher Education.



Susan Aberson joined COE's office of graduate education in March 2008 as administrative coordinator for graduate programs. She worked initially with the two doctoral programs to facilitate their admission process but now provides administrative assistance for all COE graduate programs.

Jo Jones joined the College of Education in summer 2008 as secretary to the dean. She had previously worked at Georgia Southern as senior secretary in the provost's office, and she has over a dozen years work experience in several Chatham County government offices.

Jennie Rakestraw moved to Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina, to become dean of the Richard W. Riley College of Education effective July 1. During her 20 years at Georgia Southern's College of Education, Dr. Rakestraw was on faculty with the early childhood education program and served most recently as COE's associate dean for graduate education, research, sponsored program and development.



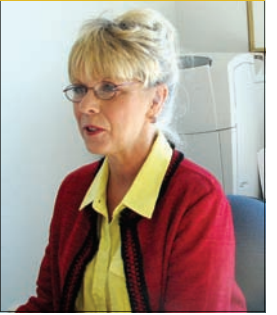
Deborah Thomas moved to the COE dean's office on July 1, 2008, as interim associate dean for graduate, research, sponsored programs and development. Prior to this move, Dr. Thomas was a faculty member in the Department of Teaching and Learning where she taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for the middle grades education program.



Donna Colson became COE's institutional research assistant in the Office of Undergraduate Teacher Education, on April 1, 2008. Her new responsibilities include database maintenance and training faculty and students to use TaskStream, COE's electronic assessment and management system.

Mathew Receives Staff Award

Wanda Mathew, administrative secretary for the Department of Teaching and Learning, received the Betty-Ware Wray College of Education Staff Award at the fall 2008 faculty meeting. Ms. Mathew was presented with a plaque and the \$500 prize. The award annually recognizes a staff member who has excelled in job performance and university service.



COE Sponsored Conferences

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

Southeastern Conference on Cross-Cultural Issues in Counseling and Education February 13-14, 2009

The conference focuses on racial identity development, ethnic identity development, and gender and sexual orientation, from infancy through adult maturity. An understanding of this development is necessary to understand the dynamics of multi-ethnic and multi-racial groups in the United States. The workshop embraces an anti-oppressive and multi-cultural perspective.

National Youth at Risk Conference March 1-4, 2009

The conference is designed for all persons interested in the well-being of youth. Colleagues with this common interest come together to share resources, ideas, and work toward collaborative solutions. Participants can attend three dynamic keynote presentations and choose from over 100 training sessions featuring successful programs and practices from across the country that address risk factors, protective factors, and community conditions needed for the well-being of young people.

Georgia Conference on Information Literacy October 2009

Information literacy is defined as the ability to know when there is a need for information and to be able to identify, locate, evaluate, and effectively use that information for the issue or problem at hand. The conference addresses information literacy in K-12 and postsecondary settings.



COE Begins Legacy Program

If you have not had a chance to see the *Wall of Honor* in the hallway outside the Dean's suite, you have missed a treat! It is an impressive tribute to those who have generously given to the College of Education. Since its unveiling last fall, we have added one new engraved leaf in honor of Norris Strickland given by friends Syble and Jim Denney. We will soon be ordering an engraved stone to recognize a generous life insurance gift to the college by Jamey and Dawn Cartee.

Planned charitable gifts, like that of the Cartees, create a win-win situation for Georgia Southern and the donor. The conservation of income and considerable tax savings often combine to make possible a gift that might not have been made otherwise. There are many variations of this type of philanthropic support, including:

- Will Bequest
- Gifts of Life Insurance
- Charitable Remainder Unitrust
- Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Revocable Charitable Trust
- Gifts of Personal Residence

For information about these memorable legacies benefiting the COE or university, contact Linda Griffin (lgriffin@georgiasouthern.edu) in the office of University Advancement.



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: College of Education, P.O. Box 8133, Statesboro, GA 30460-8133