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Honors Welcomes the New Year



The Honors Welcome Reception was held on August 30, where students, faculty, and administrators celebrated the beginning of the new school year. Georgia Southern's new president, Dr. Jaimie Hebert, spoke about his own experience as an honors student and gave advice to students as they begin the new semester.

More photos from the reception can be viewed on our [Facebook page](#).

Assisted Therapy at the Council for Undergraduate Research



Each year, all honors freshman take part in a year-long First-Year Experience (FYE) class tailored toward preparing students for success in the Honors Program. Among these classes is Animal-Assisted Therapy, an intensive exercise in research methods and service-learning taught by Dr. Jerri Kropp and Dr. Trent Maurer. While learning how to utilize both physical and online databases and look at findings from an international perspective, students also participate in a hands-on service project that pairs them with either a certified therapy dog or a local therapeutic horseback riding program, Stirrup Some Fun. Students emerge from this class fully prepared for tackling future research projects, such as their honors thesis; some are even inspired to continue working with therapy animals. For Caroline Lathi (health education & promotion '18), the class provided her with the opportunity to attend the annual Council for Undergraduate Research conference (CUR) in Tampa, Florida this summer as one of only a few students in attendance. Alongside Dr. Maurer and Dr. Kropp, Lathi helped deliver a presentation titled "Integrating Scaffolded Research with Service-Learning into a First Year, Two Semester Course Sequence."

Click [here](#) to read more!



The Georgia Southern University Honors Program is designed to foster the development of a critical sense of inquiry, a spirit of creativity, a global perspective and an ethic of civic responsibility. With your investment, the University Honors Program will continue to enrich the lives of students at Georgia Southern University.

Alumni Update: Kurt McGee



While on the Honors study abroad trip in Ireland, Dr. Engel was able to catch up with Honors alumnus Kurt McGee (English and philosophy '13), who just completed the

the M.Phil in Irish Writing at Trinity College Dublin. His dissertation focused on the meaning of the self in the works of Irish writer John Banville. Here, Kurt is pictured after a Bloom's Day event in Dublin with his mntor from Georgia Southern, Dr. Howard Keeley.

Honors Alumni are encouraged to update their information here!

A Summer Internship with Sea Turtles



DeLua helping move her first sea turtle egg to higher ground

This summer, Anne DeLua (geology '17) spent two months as an intern on St. Catherine's Island, a privately-owned island fifty miles south of Savannah dedicated to research and conservation. Run by the St. Catherine's Island Foundation, the island is not open to the public. Instead, its only human activity comes from professors and students, many of them from Georgia Southern, who visit the island to participate in classes, internships, and various conservation projects.

Conservation of endangered wildlife is the St. Catherine's Island Foundation's chief concern. In fact, they even work with the New York Zoological Society, occasionally hosting their endangered animals and working to increase their numbers. During DeLua's internship, the island was home to several ring-tailed lemurs given free range of the island's 14,640 acres, which they shared with alligators, who were frequently sighted waddling around the island, taking unexpected dips in the ocean and once even holding up traffic.

The main attraction for DeLua, however, was the sea turtles.

Click [here](#) to read more!

To learn more about Honors at Georgia Southern, how to support honors activities, or become involved in honors alumni events, contact Honors Director Steven Engel at sengel@georgiasouthern.edu



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