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The Georgia Southern University’s Theatre & Performance Program has been granted Institutional Membership in the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), making Theatre and Performance an accredited academic program.

NAST is an organization of schools, conservatories, and colleges and universities, with approximately 162 accredited institutional members. It is the national accrediting agency for theatre and theatre-related disciplines. Institutional Membership is gained through an on-going, voluntary peer review process of accreditation.

“This is a significant accomplishment for the theatre program, the Department of Communication Arts, the College, and the University,” said College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Dean Michael Smith. "It reflects the outstanding theatre faculty and programming that we have, as well as the support that the University has provided to the theatre program."

NAST accreditation is viewed by theatre education professionals as a commitment to excellence and maintaining high standards in an academic theatre program.

The Theatre & Performance Program has grown significantly since its early beginnings. In 2008 the new Black Box Theater in the Center of Art and Theatre was completed - opening the door to a venue that matches the performance and design excellence the program has established over its 60-year history.

Georgia Southern’s Theatre & Performance Program has a long reputation for excellence in artistic achievement among industry professionals. Several alumni have gone to careers in theatre and film.

Puppetry Performance

The Georgia Southern Puppetry class will be performing at the Puppet Theatre on April 27th and 29th at 7:30 p.m.

The play, “Emperor Jones,” is a 1920s play that tells the story of an African-American man who kills a man, goes to prison, escapes to a Caribbean Island and sets himself up as emperor.

The story as told through a series of flashbacks Brutus makes his way through the forest in an attempt to escape former subjects who have rebelled against him.

This production is free but there is limited seating available. To make reservations, please call the Center for Arts and Theatre box office at 912-478-5379.

Your Future is Calling

The Communication Arts Department hosted a Career Fair on Wednesday, April 14th in the Center for Art and Theatre (CAT).

Professionals from the fields of Journalism, Public Relations and Broadcasting were there to network with students.

Students had the opportunity to make connections with professionals in their field while they were on campus.

This year the career event was put on by the students in the Public Relations Event Management course.
Banquet is a Success

The 2010 Communication Arts Department Banquet celebrated the “Field of Communication” in style. Students, faculty, alumni and parents attended the banquet at the Gene Bishop Fieldhouse on April 2nd.

Guests were greeted by GUS as they entered the Fieldhouse. After a quick picture with GSU, guests enjoyed a luncheon and an afternoon filled with scholarships, awards and a guest speaker. This was the first year that the banquet took the form of a luncheon.

“I think doing the banquet as a luncheon was a great idea,” said Brittany Herrington, “It was nice to have a little change from doing the banquet at night.”

All of the funds raised will go toward supporting departmental programs.

Relay for Life

By: Megan Bearden

The PRSSA and SOCS Relay for Life team had a great success with the event Friday, April 16th at the Kiwanis Ogeechee Fairgrounds in Bulloch County.

Prior to the main event the team held meetings and fundraising events to help raise money for the American Cancer Society. They held a bake sale at the Russell Union Rotunda, held a meeting at Chili’s Restaurant so that a percent of their sales would be donated to their team, and also held a Bruster’s Ice Cream Scoop Night where a percent of the proceeds over a three-hour period were given back to their team as well.

The main event’s theme was to “Make Everyday a Celebration” and the PRSSA and SOCS team chose to decorate their tent for “Hawaii Lei Day” where they gave away prizes, treats, and had games such as limbo stick set up for children to play. The team raised around $300 for Relay for Life. All of the funds donated in support of the American Cancer Society.

New Switcher for MMC

After a long wait, the MMC program has a new switcher. The funding came from Student Technology funds since our classes and programming serve the entire university.

“The new production switcher is a Broadcast Pix digital production switcher and it is wonderful,” said Kent Murray. “We have finally acquired the latest technology to be on the ‘cutting edge’ with our studio productions.”

The previous switcher was a used one that WAGT TV in Augusta had donate to us a few years ago, but it was over 20 years old and was showing its age with some operational problems. Thus, we needed to replace the old switcher to resolve operational problems and bring student training up to current digital technology, according to Murray.

“Without a studio production switcher we are unable to meet the needs of student training in our beginning Studio Video Production course as well as fulfill the expectancy to produce a variety of programs for the Governmental/Educational channel 97 that originate from our studio facilities,” said Murray.

The MMC program has greatly up-graded in technology and capabilities with the purchase of this new switcher. All of the MMC faculty have been impressed with the capabilities of the Broadcast Pix switcher and the students are also excited with the technology.

Check Us Out and Contact the Communication Arts Department

On the Web: http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/commarts

On the Air: 91.9 the Buzz

On the Tube: Channel 97

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