Eagle Executive

Spring 2011

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Jordan Shropshire clearly demonstrates excellence in research by publications in peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and presentations.

Dr. Rutner earned her PhD in information systems at Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas in 2007. Since joining the faculty of the Department of Information Systems, she has established a research agenda focusing on staffing, management, and information technology worker performance—relevant issues in the IT field.

Dr. Rutner’s research and knowledge of structural model measurement and analysis has been an asset to the College of IT with significant implications for theory and practice in the discipline. She has published in Database and Management Information Systems Quarterly, top journals in the IS field.

After 23 years with the FBI, Don Berez joined the faculty at Georgia Southern University in 2007. During his career as a special agent, he was assigned to the Seattle, Illinois, and Washington, DC, offices, responsible for criminal investigations, undercover operations, and foreign counter-intelligence.

Mr. Berez is a licensed polygraph examiner, certified public accountant, and certified financial examiner. He received the Eagle Executive Society Award for his commitment to students in investigation classes, mock grand jury and civil trials, and federal court and prison visits. His IRS Project Advisor allows students to interact with law enforcement in document reviews, financial analysis, forensic interviews, surveillance, undercover operations, and search warrant execution.

John O’Malley’s service is extensive. He has served on the IT department’s Tenure and Promotion Committee, Assessment Committee, and as a Conversations with Professors leader; as well as CIT’s Academic Standards Committee, Library Committee, Governance Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Development Committee, Faculty Senate, General Education Council, and IT Advisory Council.

Teresa Lee performs the functions of an administrative assistant would typically do but she ALWAYS does it with a smile and an uplifting attitude. She goes beyond the call of duty to remove administrative burden from faculty, including travel paperwork, textbook orders, and ADP approval. Mrs. Lee manages documentation of classes crucial for our accreditation, handles faculty searches, and creates master spreadsheets for faculty and administrators.

Mrs. Lee is a worker bee for CIT social events, the BBQ in fall and Low-Country Boil in spring. She and her husband are always there to assist. Mrs. Lee helps us work hard and play hard. She is retiring in June but is coming back in August to help us until we can hire and train a replacement. That is how dedicated she is.
Thank You to

The Colleges of Business Administration and Information Technology are grateful to alumni and friends, who, through their contributions, have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in education. Contributors who earmarked COBA, CIT, one of our programs, or scholarship funds.

In Memory

Eugene M. Bishop

In March, COBA and Georgia Southern lost a long time friend, dedicated supporter, role model, and leader. Eugene M. Bishop, who died of heart failure, was a key leader in the University’s growth over the past two decades.

Gene served on the COBA Business Advisory Council from 1992–2006 and was a frequent campus visitor and speaker. His service to COBA includes Day for Southern and Eagle Executive Society support along with the Eugene M. Bishop Faculty Award for Sustained Excellence, an endowment annually honoring the COBA professor who excels in sustained teaching, research, and service performance.

Gene’s leadership at Georgia Southern is evidenced in his two-term service as chair of Southern Boosters, predecessor of the Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation, and presence at almost every home football game. He was presented an Honorary Doctorate of Letters degree at the University’s 2000 graduation ceremonies and was the Southern Conference’s 2003 Distinguished Service award recipient for Georgia Southern. Former University President Bruce Grube recognized Gene’s extraordinary support with the President’s Medal in 2006 and the Alumni Association presented him the Friend of the University Award in 1997. He was inducted into the Georgia Southern Athletic Hall of Fame in Fall 2006.

COBA

Trip Addison* 
Linda Aguilar Espinal* 
Paula L. Alexander 
Yaseen Afsaj-Yaseen 
William Ampornsah* 
Mark H. Anderson* 
Stewart M. Applbaum 
Atlanta Chapter of the CPCU Society, 
Megan Dooley 
Atlanta Claims Association, Vanessa Hall 
Atlanta Gas & Light Matching Gifts, 
Helen Stembridge 
Frances Bagley* 
Sahar Bahmani 
Bank of America Matching Gifts 
Rhonda Banks* 
John Barkoulas 
Perry C. Barnett* 
Rick Barr* 
Matthew S. Bean* 
Richard A. Bean* 
Becker Professional Education 
Charles A. Beckum 
Paul T. Bennett* 
Donald Bercez* 
Ednilson Bernardes* 
Roland M. Berry 
Beta Gamma Sigma, Inc. 
Gene Bishop (deceased) 
Gary A. Blount* 
William H. Bolen* 
Tommy Bond* 
William J. Bostwick* 
Tommy Bond* 
Hoke S. Brunson, Jr.* 
Ednilson Bernardes* 
Roland M. Berry 
Zeina Brasington 
Lewis M. Braxton 
Hoke S. Brunson, Jr.* 
Thomas Buckhoff 
Bryan R. Burke 
Gerard Burke 
John W. Burton* 
Kenneth C. Butler* 
Michael Callaghan* 
Constance R. Campbell* 
Ronald L. Cannon* 
Boris A. Carl 
Brenda S. Carter* 
Harry S. Carter* 
Nancy Carter 
Rosemary Carter* 
Thomas Case* 
C.H. Robinson Company 
Chatham Foundation, William Sprague III 
Cherry, Belkaert & Holland, LLP 
Claude Howard Lumber Company Inc., 
C. Howard Howard 
James T. Coo* 
C. Doug Collins III* 
Collins Insurance Specialists Inc., 
Paul Collins 
Leslie Conaway 
Lisa Conti-Bacon*

Charles C. Cox Ill* 
Susan W. Cox 
Brian M. Creamer 
Crider Poultry Inc., W. A. Crider, Jr. 
Dabb’s Hickman Hill & Cannon CPA 
Edwin Hill and Billy Hickman* 
R. Bruce Dannely* 
Eynor Davis* 
Gary M. Davis 
James E. Davis, Jr.* 
DCJ Development Company Inc., 
Daniel C. Johnston* 

Eagle Home Rental LLP, C. William McGahaee* 
Jimmie L. Earle 
East Georgia Regional Medical Center 
Jacqueline K. Eastman* 
Kevin L. Eastman* 
Rhett Edwards 
Fathy Elaissi 
Elliott Davis LLC, William Woodward 
Nancy Elrod* 
ExxonMobil Foundation, Tom Tharpe 
Farmers & Merchants Bank of Statesboro, 
C. Ricky Nessmith

Godfrey A. Gibbison 
Gifford Hillegass & Ingwersen LLP, 
John D. Shurley* 
Cynthia Glover 
George M. Godfrey* 
Carl Gooding* 
Jenna Green 
Sara Jeanette Grimes* 
Kathleen H. Gruben 
H. A. Sack Company, Paul Roesel* 
Habil Arogei & Wynne LLP, Alex Knight 
Jeanette Hadden 
Lynda S. Hamilton 
Karen Hamilton 
Hancock Askew & Co. LLP, 
Mike McCarthy 
Mark D. Hanna* 
Horace W. Harrell, Jr.* 
Larry F. Harrison* 
Consuelo Hart* 
Charles Harter* 
Jackie W. Hartley* 
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Peter Hayes* 
Mary F. Haszeldine* 
William D. Head* 
Tracyann Henry 
Habersham Capital Group Inc., 
C. Don Wiggins 
Nancy Harring 
Susan S. Harring* 
William T. Harring* 
Scott Hilsen 
James Earl Hilson 
Jeremy R. Hinton* 
Melissa Holland* 
Holland, Henry & Bromley LLP, 
J. Richard Henry, Jr 
The Home Depot P&G 
Hood Rentals, James M. Hood* 
Howard Lumber & Hardware Co., 
Bill C. Howard 
Donald D. Howard* 
Walter Huggins* 
Evan Huggins* 
IKON Office Solutions, Inc., Anna Beecher 
Feruzan Irani* 
Robert Jackson 
Eleanor James 
Matthew H. Janofsky* 
John Jennings* 
John E. and Aileen Price Foundation Inc., 
Russell & Ailese Phiddy 
Michael K. Johnson* 
Jones & Boyd Insurance Agency, 
Edwin O. Boyd 
W. Kelly Jones 
Thomas W. Jones* 
Victoria Jones* 
JWH Service Partners Inc., 
Jackie W. Hartley 
Ginger Karrh 
Kaufman Tire, Inc., * 
Richard E. Aldredge* 
Julia Ann Kelly* 
Sharon Kelly*
during 2010 are listed below. Care has been taken in the preparation of this list to assure complete and accurate recording; however, if omissions or errors have occurred, we express our sincere regret and request that you bring such errors to our attention.
Dean’s Citations for Student Engagement

The Dean’s Citations spotlight faculty who engage students in exceptional activities, events, and projects beyond what is expected in a class.

Monument, Spy Museum, and Smithsonian.

While students admit that his classes are tough, they also tell you he is simply the best. He has worked tirelessly to deliver his graduate courses nearly without flaw. The School of Economic Development owes him a great debt for the success of the Master of Science in Applied Economics program.

Edward H. Sibbold, Team Projects, Internships, and Career Counseling

Ed Sibbold brings practical experience to the classroom and has become one of COBA’s most popular instructors. He interacts with students through team projects, internships, and career counseling. He uses his contacts to assist students in landing key positions in financial services firms. He has become an invaluable resource to the community through his annual Community Bank Symposium.

Luke A. Pittaway, Entrepreneurship

Since arriving on our campus from the University of Sheffield in Fall 2008, Luke Pittaway has been successful in engaging just about everyone he comes into contact with! His passion for entrepreneurship and for teaching is evident to all who know him. In the classroom, his energy and teaching style resonate with his students. As William A. Freeman chair of free enterprise and director of the Center for Entrepreneurial Learning and Leadership, he spends a great deal of his time outside the classroom interacting with members of the business community. All would agree that his energy and enthusiasm are infectious.

J. Arthur Gowen, Organizing Internships and Interviews for IT Majors

Art Gowen is probably the only faculty member who knows all 300 majors in his department by name. Why does he know them all? Because he is responsible for coordinating their internships semester after semester. Last year he coordinated and signed off on more than 100 IT internships.

Honors Day

The COBA and CIT awards presented at Honors Day and the names of the recipients are listed below.

Accountancy

Paul LaGrone Scholarship: Ryan A. Lewis
Samantha F. Williams

The Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs Academic Excellence Award: Ryan A. Lewis

Computer Science

Computer Science Student of the Year Award: Daniel Murphy Davis

Upsilon Pi Epsilon: Jonathan Bowyer, Daniel Corley, Sean Handley, Hanna Knight, RaTesha LeShoure, Matthew Mills, Zachary Reynolds

Economic Development

The Wall Street Journal Award: Stephen Mimbis

SED Award for Academic Distinction: Robert Samuel

Omicron Delta Epsilon: Aaron Anglin, Leslie Edwards, Robert David Hoffman, Virginia Hunt

Sam Kuehl
Colleen Maddy
Sam Provano
Samuel Smith
Zachary Ryan Taylor
Caleb Tucker

Finance & Quantitative Analysis

ACGA Financial Guaranty Corporation: Brittany McCallum

Atlanta Charter Property Casualty Underwriters: Keylene Burgess, Mikal Lewis, Danielle Youngs

Paul Kidd: Candace Fullmore

Information Systems

Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr., Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: April N. McKay

Albert J. Roesel Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: Dennis J. Luong

IS Alumni Scholarship: Brendan F. Hegarty

Buddy Lichley Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: Andrew M. Weber

Richard A. Mordecai Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: Christopher D. Simmons

Susan Rechtshock Williams Business Technology Scholarship: Caitlin B. Herr

Dr. Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr. Scholarship: Melvin D. Zuber

Pickett/Garvin Scholarship: Daniel L. Fletcher

Matthew Janofsky Scholarship: Ashley L. Harrell

Information Systems Junior Award: Jesse T. Floyd

Information Systems Sophomore Award: Melvin D. Zuber

Information Systems Freshman Award: Carlyle D. Hall

Alpha Iota Mu:
Linda Carwell
Daniel Fletcher
Caitlin Gaines
Brendan Hegarty
Caitlin Herr
Suraj-Wilson Kolamkanny
Karl Miller
Canssandra Ohaneye
Stacy Pringle
James Reames
Maria Roberts
Christopher Simons
Raenell Wells
Mychal Williams

Information Technology Excellence in Service Award: Jared R. Jones

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Logistics Student of the Year: John Joseph Cavanaugh

Top Management Student Award: Jesse Tyler Floyd

Top Marketing Student Award: Ashley Jazette Warren

Outstanding Marketing Student Award: Ali Beth Beavers, Megan Brook, Megan Prescott

Sack Company Marketing Service Award: Katelyn Ann Dearing

Giacomo Family Memorial Scholarship in Marketing: Vaudance Lebon Cunningham

Mu Kappa Tau Marketing National Honor Society: Ali B. Beavers, Chelsea L. Friez, Marissa R. Johnson, Nichole D. Wanco

Information Technology Award for Excellence, Outstanding IT Student: William Tyler Beeson

Information Technology Award for Excellence, Academic Achievement Award: Alexander J. Daher

COBA Golf Tournament

Friday, May 18, 2012
Forest Heights Country Club

Homecoming 2011

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Saturday, November 5
Georgia Southern vs. Citadel
Accounting

Kaye C. Powell (1981), Savannah, is now the principal business banker for Wells Fargo Bank. Her husband is married to William.

Laura Ann James (1982), Summerville, SC, is the SVP/COO of Lincoln Financial Media Co., Atlanta. Email: laj12296@aol.com.

Kim Collins Stewart (1984), Greenville, SC, is the senior portfolio manager for Carolina First Bank. Email: kim.stewart@carolinafirst.com.

John E. Lavender (1986, 1991 MBA), Statesboro, president of Lavender and Associates, has been named to the local board of directors for Sea Island Bank, a division of Synovus Bank.

Thomas M. Shepard (1986), Vidalia, is a CPA with McKinnon, Colouhoun, McCullough & Clark, Vidalia. Email: tshepard@mckinnoncolouhoun.com.

Elizabeth Zimmermann Pauk (1989), Norcross, is a teacher in Norcross. She is Elizabeth Zimmern Pauk (1989), Co., Atlanta. Email: laj12296@aol.com.

Society of CPAs. Southern IS graduate. Email: lizpaulk@comcast.net.

Kim Collins Stewart (1984), Greenville, SC, is the senior portfolio manager for Carolina First Bank. Email: kim.stewart@carolinafirst.com.

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Elizabeth Zimmermann Pauk (1989), Norcross, is a teacher in Norcross. She is married to Randall Pauk, a 1986 Georgia Southern IS graduate. Email: lzpaulk@hotmail.com.

Rodney J. Oglesby (1992), Philadelphia, PA, attorney, is now the executive director of government relations for the School District of Philadelphia. He was an outstanding safety on the football team and still holds the record for pass interceptions. Email: rjolaw@yahoo.com.


Lisa Contri-Bacon (1994), Richmond Hill, is a CPA/audit manager for Hancock & Askew, CPAs, Savannah. She was recently appointed to the board of directors of the Education Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs.

Leslie Brown Wheeler (1994), CPA, Marietta, is now a stay-at-home-mom after being the corporate tax manager for Earthlink. She is married to Georges Wheeler, and they have three children, Alex (9), Avon (4), and Palmer (2). Email: leslie.wheeler@att.net.

Saralyn Bruggeman McDonnell (1996), Sevierville, TN, is married to Brian McDonnell. Their sixth child, Rebecca Elizabeth, was born on January 21, 2010. Email: saralynmcd@comcast.net.

Leigh Anne Dean (2001), formerly in Savannah, is now in Rincon, where she is a senior staff accountant for Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Savannah. She is married to Robert Dean.

Chris M. Barr (2004), Richmond Hill, is a loan officer with the Coastal Area Development Authority, recently graduated from the Georgia Banking School at the University of Georgia, Athens. He is married to Candice Grant-Barr, a 2005 Georgia Southern COE graduate. Email: c.barr17@gmail.com.

Jason L. Doolar (2004; 2004 ACc), Dublin, CPA, CFA, is the audit manager for Nichols, Cauley & Assoc., CPAs, Dublin. He is married to Mindy Connell. Email: jasondoolar2004@hotmail.com.

Neneka S. Holt (2004; 2005 ACc), Statesboro, currently employed at Georgia Southern in the Department of Housing, recently married Todd Jones, Statesboro.

Nicole M. Jordon (2004), Hinesville, is now the administrator of the Raleigh Development Company. She is married to Jeremy Jordon. Email: nicole.jordon 31313@yahoo.com.

John H. Barnes (2008), Statesboro, is an accountant with Habi, Arogolli and Wynne, LLP Atlanta. He is engaged to Crystal Lynn Sowell, Rocky Ford, current student in Georgia Southern’s College of Education.

John J. “Joe” Batch, Ill (2008), Macon, is now an accountant with Meadows Wall & Company. He recently completed the CPA exam. Email: john.batch@gmail.com.

S. Ryan Brinson (2008), Dublin, is now a CPA with Thigpen, Jones, Seaton & Company. Email: rbrinson@rjcpa.com.

Economics

Claudine Oras Hilbert (1992), Jacksonville Beach, Fl., is a territory manager, CFA, for International Paper. Email: Claudinehilbert@yahoo.com.

James M. Grams (2004), Brooklet, procurement manager for Betchel Power Corp., Frederic, MD, is engaged to Renee Maria Caissie, a 2005 graduate of St. Peter’s College, NJ.

Jennifer Lynn Chase (2010), Statesboro, an employee of the Citizens Bank, is married to Grady K. “Ryan” Reddick, a Georgia Southern political science graduate.

Finance

Ann Adams Cromley (1983), Brooklet, is now the firm administrator for Dabbs, Hickman, Hill Cannon, CPAs. She passed the CPA exam in November 2011. Ann is married to Lee Cromley, and they have three children, Mary Catherine, Mollye, and John.

Gregory Alan Harrison (1983), formerly in Crestview, FL, is now in Thorby, AL, where he is the procurement agent for Boeing, Ft. Walton Beach, FL. He received his MBA from Webster University in 2010. Greg is married to Gwen Smith. Email: gregory.a.harrison2@boeing.com.

Timothy Dais (1985) is now a journalist in Pasig City, Philippines. Email: sayntimothy@hotmail.com.

Darron M. Burnett (1988), Statesboro, executive vice president of Sea Island Bank, Statesboro and Savannah, was presented with the William B. Turner Humanitarian Award presented by Synovus, the Columbus-based financial services company. He has received awards from Habitat for Humanity as well as a Deen Day Smith Service to Mankind Award. Darron has been invited to become an entrepreneurial fellow at the Center for Entrepreneurial Learning and Leadership at Georgia Southern. Email: burrent4@bullock.net.

C. Sam Williams (1988), Statesboro, is the owner of the Vintage Connection. He is a 2010 graduate of Leadership Bullock and the Graduate School of Banking at LSU. Sam is married to Dawn Wetherington. Email: sandawn@hdcv.com.

Charles Allen “Chuck” Moore (1990), Colouhoun, is the HR director-fibers for Shaw Industries, Dalton. He is married to Billie Sable Sück. Email: chuck.moore@shawwine.com.

Vicki Fauxley Valdez (1992), Dupont, WA, is the branch auditor for Edward Jones, St. Louis, MO. She is married to Thomas S. Valdez, Jr. Email: vkwirk905@hotmail.com.

Ken Rabstch (1993), Savannah, has been promoted to executive vice president for Sea Island Bank, where he leads the commercial banking teams.

Heather Dorminn Poe (1996), Fitzgerald, is a senior sales rep with Novartis Pharmaceuticals. She is married to Preston Poe. Email: hdpoe@yahoo.com.

Chelse Evers Higgins (2000), Dacula, is a finance officer for HADCO, Suwanee. She is married to 1998 Georgia Southern finance graduate Herman Ray Higgins. Email: c.evers70@hotmail.com.

Kevin A. Harrison (2002; 2003 MBA) was recently named president of Citizens Bank of Bulloch County. He has served as executive vice president since 2007. Kevin is a member of the Coastal Conservation Association, Rotary Club of Statesboro, and Statesboro First United Methodist Church. He is a graduate of the 2009 Leadership Bullock class, Boys and Girls Club, and local United Way. Kevin is married to Mary Helen and they have a son, Davis, and a daughter, Brynn.

Alex P. Worksheet (2002), Lemont, PA, is the campus minister at Penn State University for the Reformed University Fellowship. He is married to Becki Ballard, a 2001 Georgia Southern CHDFS graduate, and they have two children, Alexander Whitfield [4], and Miles Manning [1], and a third child expected in August 2011. Email: awaiting@ruf.org.

Thomas R. Poole (2004), Statesboro, is a loan review specialist with Steven N. Powell & Company. He is married to Brandi Walker, a 2004 Georgia Southern marketing graduate. Email: tpooles@spc.com.

Jennifer Price Flowers (2006), formerly in Suwanee, is now in Savannah, where she is a staff insurance agent with State Farm–Dorothy Jannone Agency. She is married to Blake Flowers, a 2005 Georgia Southern finance graduate. Email: jennifer.j.flowers@gmail.com.

Brandon S. Yarn (2007), Atlanta, is a business analyst with IPC Global. Email: bsvann@live.com.

Jessica L. Averitt (2009), Statesboro, who is currently employed as an insurance agent specializing in personal lines insurance with Blount, Burke, Wimbler and Hendriks Insurers, recently married Thomas E. Rushing, IV, a 2010 Georgia Southern management graduate.

Anna Frances Powers (2009), formerly in Barnesville, is now in Denver, CO, where she is the sales coordinator for Unum, Greenwood Village, CO.

General Business

John A. Datson (1969), Dawsonville, after 32 years with insurance companies, took early retirement and operates a retail gift shop and online store—www.unclejohnsattic.com. He is married to Georgia Southern and Georgia State alumna Laura Dianne Hesling. Email: unclejohnsattic@yahoo.com.

Stephen E. Karstensen (1971), formerly in Europe, is now in Fort Belvoir, VA, where he...
has officially retired as a colonel in the army and civilian employee of the U. S. government. Email: stephen.e.karstenen@us.army.mil.

Kirby T. Waters (1974), Statesboro, has retired from DFCS after many years of dedicated service. He is married to Becky Helmuth.

Ronald T. Gay (1975), formerly in Jesup, is now in Ludowici, where he is an insurance agent with Liberty National Insurance, Waycross. He is married to Lora Causey. Email: rtg7575@hotmail.com.

Deborah P. Champion (1981), Statesboro, is the program coordinator of the Center for OnLine Learning at Georgia Southern. She received her MPA in public administration in 1995. Email: dchampion@georgiasouthern.edu.

Homer G. “Chip” McBrayer (1989), Ft. Lauderdale, FL, is a RAC for the U.S. gov’t. DOJ/DEA, Freeport, Bahamas Resident Office, Miami Field Division. He is married to Shannon Gibson. Email: dawnygibie@aol.com.

Darrell Reid Hendrix (1990), formerly in Anderson, SC, is in Greenville, SC, where he is the senior vice president for sales for Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation. Darrell was an outstanding defensive player on the football team. His wife is Sandra Aki, a UGA graduate. Email: darrell.hendrix@milwaukeeetool.com.

Shannon Taylor Iwanski (1994, 1999 MBA), Richmond Hill, the director, initial phase procurement at Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., Savannah, is no longer married to Joe Iwanski. Email: shannon.iwanski@gulfstream.com.

Karita L. Washington (2004), Macon, is an area operations officer for BB&T, Macon, is engaged to Quincy C. Robinson, a Georgia Southern general studies graduate.

Information Technology

Wesley Jerrell (2009), Aiken, SC, is the network/server administrator for Security Federal Bank, Aiken, SC. Email: wesjerrell@gmail.com.

Stephen Porter (2009), Sylvester, is the assistant director of technology for the Worth County Board of Education. He is married to Jessica Ellis, who has her associate degree in early childhood education from Ogeechee Technical College.

Logistics

Eric H. Engel (2009), Broken Arrow, OK, is the materials manager for Hilti, Inc. He is married to Carter Sample, a 2009 Georgia Southern nursing school graduate. Email: eric.engel@hilti.com.

Jon L. Simpson (2008), formerly in Kennesaw, is now in Macon, where he is a third year law student at Mercer Law and also a law clerk in the Judge Advocate’s office, Warner Robins. Email: jonsimpson1@gmail.com.

Caitlin D. Bowen (2010), formerly in Folkston, is currently in Statesboro. On January 1, 2011, she and David J. Unkle, a current student in the College of Technology, were married.

Management

William C. “Bill” Brown (1970), formerly in Guyton, is now in Statesboro, where he has retired after 14 years with T. J. Maxx and a total of forty years in retail management. His wife is Nancy Breazel. Bill built a house in Statesboro in November 2010 and a caring of Email: wcbrown47@yahoo.com.

Charles A. Lusted (1982), formerly in Roswell, is now in Statesboro, where he is the head baseball coach for East Georgia College, Swainsboro. He was one of our baseball players. He is married to Alison Delany, a 1982 Georgia Southern education graduate.

Ronne A. Paulk (1986), Dothan, AL, is the HR manager for the McLane Company. His wife is Carla. Email: ronnpaulk1@yahoo.com.

Amy Balzararo (1988) has been hired by Stanford-based Operations, Inc., a small business: human resources firm, as a consultant, responsible for administration, policy and procedure development, and payroll support for clients. As a human resources generalist with 10 years of experience, her previous roles have been with insurance, reinsurance, and staffing.

Col. Sean A. Gainey (1991), Springfield, VA, is currently at the Senior Service College, Washington, DC. He was promoted to full colonel in December 2010. Sean will command the 108th ADA Patriot Brigade at Ft. Bragg, NC, in Summer 2011. His wife is Vera, and they have two children, a daughter, Tatyana, who is a senior in high school, and a son, Justin, who is in 8th grade. Sean was an All-American offensive lineman while at Southern. Email: sean.gainey@us.army.mil.

April Gheesling McAndrews (1992), formerly in Roswell, is now in Friendswood, TX. She is married to Craig McAndrews. Email: mcandrew4@gmail.com.

Chris G. Shepherd (1995), Goshen, KY, is the director of strategic planning for American Commercial Lines, Jeffersonville, IN. He is married to Leslie Watkins, a 1996 Georgia Southern FCS. Email: chris.shepherd@ACLmes.com.

Marketing

Garrett Nevil (1966), Statesboro, a retired banker, is the chair of the Bullock County Commissioners. He is married to Emily Brannen. Email: enevis81@netia.net.

Phillip R. Mays (1971), Lakeland, FL, is president/broker of the Ulysses Realty Group, Inc. His wife is Sandra. Email: phil@ulyssesrealtygroup.com.

Renee Lynn Burgess (1992), Arlington, VA, is a hairdresser/education director for Eclips, Inc. She is married to Gerard Kierans. Email: reneelburgess@comcast.net.

Lori S. Durden (1992; 1998 MBA), Statesboro, has been named vice president for Economic Development at Ogeechee Technical. She had been director of the Georgia Southern Small Business Development Center for a number of years. In 2009, Lori was named in both the Savannah Business Report & Journal’s and the Savannah Business Report & Journal’s .
Georgia Trend’s “40 under 40” lists as one of the state’s “best and brightest.” She is also a graduate of Leadership Bulloch and is a 2009 graduate of Leadership Georgia. Lori is married to Tim Durden, a 1991 Georgia Southern COE graduate, and they have three children, Chloe (12), Caylee (10), and T. J. (4).

Michael L. Fry (1992), Dacula, is the owner of Fry Landscaping Company. His wife is Stephanie, and they have a son, Hunter (13), and a daughter, Keelyn Wall (7). Email: frydaddy007@aol.com.

Leigh Wallace (1992), Moultrie, has been appointed vice president for student affairs at Moultrie Technical College, one of the fastest growing technical colleges in the rural part of the state. In her new role, Leigh is charged with oversight of admissions, registration, financial aid, career services, and student organizations, as well as a staff of 25 across Colquitt, Tift, Turner, and Worth counties. Leigh holds a master in adult education from The University of Georgia. She is a Kappa Delta alumna, 2000 Leadership Colquitt graduate, and member of the Moultrie Junior Women’s Club, and on the boards of United Way of Colquitt and Moultrie YMCA. Leigh, her husband, Ashley, and children, Raley, Ryan, and Rob, attend First Baptist Church of Moultrie.

R. Kenny Strickland (1996) recently moved to Monroe and started a regional printed and online magazine, Georgia Connector. Email: klesmyller@gmail.com.

Rammel E. Tovar Leon (1998), Caracas, Venezuela, has a business that makes injection moulding products. He is married to Lisabeth Da Silva, a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: rammelmedravo@hotmail.com.

Stephen C. Metz (2003), Athens, is a staffing consultant with Randstad. He is married to Karah Higgins, a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: metzuga@yahoo.com.

Adam Hawk (2004), Macon, is now the manager of Bridgestone Americus, Fairburn. He is married to Sarah Sawyer, a 2009 Georgia Southern early childhood education graduate. Email: ahawk566@hotmail.com.

Matthew L. Lightsey (2004), Houston, TX, is the territory manager for Boston Scientific. He is married to Ashlee Addison. Email: matlightsey@gmail.com.

Charlotte Bruneteaux (2005), Seive, France, is a junior product manager for Colgate-Palmolive, Base Colonnes, France. She was on the Lady Eagles tennis team while at Southern. Charlotte is engaged to Uli Ebersperger, a 2002 Georgia Southern economics graduate and member for the men’s tennis team. Email: charlotte bruneteaux@hotmail.com.

Evan Lasister (2006), formerly in Covington, is now in Atlanta, where he is a property specialist with Promove. Email: evan.lasister@hotmail.com.

Christin J. Buckner (2007; 2008 MBA), Savannah, is a staff accountant with Gulfstream Aerospace, Savannah. Email: christin.buckner@gulfstream.com.

Sydney Dean (2007), Greensboro, is the director of sales for The Lodge on Lake Oconee.

Alicia Lewis (2007), Atlanta, is an event coordinator with Wells Fargo Bank. Email: alicia.leonardclassic@gmail.com.

Colin W. Cormack (2008), formerly in Roswell, is now in Medford, MA, where he is a leasing consultant for First Realty Management. Email: colin.cormack@yahoo.com.

Brittany L. Toole (2008; 2010 MEd Higher Ed), formerly in Belville, is now in Register, where she is the assistant compliance director and director of high school relations for the Georgia Southern University football program. She is engaged to Spencer Brannen, a 2008 Georgia Southern civil engineering management graduate. Email: brittoile2@georgiasouthern.edu.

Bruce A. Rosser, Jr. (2009), Sharpsburg, is the territory sales manager for Continental Tire Co. Email: bruce.rosser@corin-na.com.

Max Vandewiele (2010), Marietta, is the marketing director for Premier Systems Design (PSD). He traveled the country as a brand ambassador in grass roots marketing for GANZ, Inc. Email: maxvandewiele@yahoo.com.

Kyle Lee Kimmel (2003), Nichols, is now the CFO for Bacon County Hospital and Health Systems, Alma. Email: kkimmel@bcchs.org.

Candace P. Whittle (2006), formerly in Tifton, is now in TyTy, where she is the director of reimbursement for the Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Albany. She is married to Adam Guarnieri, and they have a 16-month-old son. Candace received her CPA license in July 2009. Email: cguarneri@ppmh.org.

Maria Waller (2009), Savannah, has joined Hancap Ackse & Co., Savannah, as the firm’s newest senior tax accountant.

MBA

Marion Duggan Ryan (1990), formerly in Ontario, Canada, is now in Miami, FL, where she is the product manager for Axxica. She is married to Kevin Ryan. Email: mrmdkryan@att.net.

Steve E. Thomas (2001), Bellendorf, IA, is the purchasing manager for the Genesis Health System, Davenport, IA. He is married to Heidi C. Harris. Email: stthomas3@mchsi.com.

Michele Verna (2005), Wilmington, DE, is a derivatives trade support person for J. P. Morgan, Newark, DE. She is married to August “AJ” Zickgraf, III, a 2005 Georgia Southern civil engineering graduate.

NYG

Bobby Hall (1973), Savannah, is now a sales consultant with Grainger Honda.

In Memoriam

Joseph D. Olson (1976, ACC), Waco, TX, passed away in February 2011.


Dennis Leon Hudson (1984, MGT), Buford, GA, passed away on January 1, 2011.

Special Providence: Marcia Jones

Marcia Noreen White Jones passed away on March 20. Courageous, God-fearing, loving, and strong—an educator and leader—she was born in Castries, West Indies. After the untimely death of her mother, Phyllis White, Marcia was adopted, raised, and educated by her uncle and aunt, Conroy and Lillian Joyce Maynard White.

A graduate of the University of West Indies in Cave Hill, Barbados, Marcia received her master and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, where she met and married her husband, Luther Jones.

In her professional career, she rose through the ranks to professor in the School of Economic Development and associate vice president for compliance at Georgia Southern, where she mentored many during her journey. Later in her career, Marcia moved to Watkinsville joining The University of Georgia as an associate in the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development, and Cooperative Extension division in the university’s College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.

Insignia Promotions is a privately held company that ranks in the top 50 within the promotional products industry. Insignia’s primary focus is upon Fortune 500 companies and has clients such as The Coca-Cola Company, Hershey’s, Lenovo, Atlanta Braves, and Anheuser-Busch. Additionally, the company focuses upon sports license agreements with these companies and provides merchandise to promote NCAA BCS Bowl Series, NCAA Final Four, Super Bowl, Olympics, FIFA World Cup, Super Bowl, NBA All Star and Finals and other key sporting events around the world.

Marcia wrote shortly before her death from cancer that she was content her earthly life was worthwhile, “knowing I made someone smile, lent a helping hand, or lifted someone’s spirit.” For years, that was exactly what she did at Georgia Southern, creating a debt of gratitude that many of us may never repay. Thank you Marcia, for passing our way.

Dust, Spiders, and Thieves, Oh My!

Laurie G. Dyke, CPA, CFF, CFE, CFC, received her accounting degree from the University of California at Berkeley and followed a career with Ernst & Young for almost ten years, became a financial executive, and, in 2002, started her own business, the Investigative Accounting Group.

In the 8th annual Forensic Accounting Lecture Series, her presentation, “Dust, Spiders, and Thieves, Oh My,” outlined forensic accounting benefits, including variety of assignment, “order out of chaos,” and “A-ha!” moments in her work. She identified hectic schedules, staffing, lying and misrepresentation by investigative sub-jects, and unending attention to detail as challenges.

In case review, Dyke cited purposely commingled divorce funds, a common thief HR manager, a civic leader scam comingled divorce funds, a common

New BBRED Director

The Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED) at Georgia Southern is pleased to announce Dominique Halaby has been appointed BBRED director. Halaby comes to Georgia Southern from the Center for Community and Business Research at the University of Texas-San Antonio’s Institute for Economic Development, where he supervised a team of skilled economists, researchers, faculty, and graduate students. The center conducted projects ranging from assisting local organizations in strategic planning to multi-state regional analyses. Specific projects include demonstrating how small businesses economically impacted the state of Texas economy; conducting assessments for a number of Texas’s nonprofit entities; and preparing a market value analysis and cluster study for the City Planning Department of San Antonio.

In the Rio Grande Regional Center’s workforce and economic development project, Halaby secured more than $28 million in funding, one of the largest federal training grants in South Texas; was named one of the national finalists for U.S. Economic Development Administration’s Best Practices in 2003 and 2006; and, received the Texas Workforce Commission’s 2004 Transitional Workforce Award.

Dominique obtained a DPA from Nova Southeastern University, MBA from University of Texas-Pan-American, and a BA in sociology from the University of Texas. He is a member of the Southwestern Economics Association, the Association for Research on Non-profit Organizations, and Voluntary Action. He, his wife, and four children are looking forward to their move to Statesboro and to being nearer family in Florida.

COBA’s Spring 2011 Graduation Trends