Three-hundred eighty new education freshman and transfers to the University attended the annual summer SOAR (Southern’s Orientation, Advisement and Registration) sessions this past summer. Three very talented SOAR Leaders, Brandon James, Political Science Education; Melissa Muetzel, Early Childhood Education; and Lara Hammond, Communication Arts, assisted the Education Advisement Center’s staff to welcome the students.

The beginning of the new academic year was kicked off with a New Student Convocation coordinated by Chris Thompson of the Advisement Center. The event was held in the College of Education Building on August 18, 2003, for all new education majors. Dr. Ronnie Sheppard, Teaching and Learning Department Chair, welcomed the new students and introduced Dr. Jane Page, the keynote speaker for the event. Dr. Page, professor in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading and Georgia Southern booster extraordinaire, was an engaging, lively speaker who challenged the students to continue the “winning tradition” here at Georgia Southern University. She talked about staying on top of the game in every way, suggested ways to defeat the “Statesboro Blues”—those times we all get a bit down—and focused attention on other topics including alcohol and drug use, sexual assault and becoming involved on-campus. Dr. Page wore her best Georgia Southern outfit, the blue sparkling hat, and concluded her presentation with a song for the students, a modified version of “I Believe You Can Fly.”

Each of the program coordinators, Dr. Missy Bennett, P-12 & Secondary Programs; Dr. Mary Ann Nelson (filling in for Dr. Diana Hammite), Special Education; Dr. Judi Robbins, Early Childhood Education; and Dr. Deborah Thomas, Middle Grades Education, welcomed the students. As the coordinators stood to discuss their programs, they asked for a show of hands from any students in that major. This led to a lively challenge of “would anyone like to change their major and here are the reasons why.” The students enjoyed the humor of the challenges.

The Student Government Association representatives, led by Ms. Charisse Perkins, Vice President for Academic Affairs, introduced themselves and challenged the new students to become involved in SGA and other organizations. Ms. Perkins discussed her work with Dean Chance in establishing a student advisory board for the College of Education.

Following the program, light refreshments were served in the lobby area where faculty and new students spent time chatting and getting acquainted with one another.
Dr. He Received the Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award

Dr. Ming Fang He, associate professor in the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading, was presented the Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award at the College’s fall faculty meeting. Established by Jack Miller who was Dean of the College of Education from 1986 to 1991, the award recognizes a full-time faculty member in the College for significant accomplishments in the combined areas of teaching, scholarship and service.

Dr. He, in her sixth year at Georgia Southern, teaches curriculum theory at the graduate level and foundations of education at the undergraduate level. She is very involved in mentoring doctoral students and has served on thirty dissertation committees. Dr. He’s own research efforts have resulted in numerous publications, presentations, six book chapters, and two books. She serves on the editorial board for three major journals in her discipline. Dr. He’s various service activities extend from within her department and college to the University campus and the broader community with program development and facilitator roles at many national and international conferences.

As recipient of the Jack Miller Outstanding Educator Award, Dr. He will have her name placed on the permanent plaque honoring all recipients and receive $1,500 for use in the enhancement of her teaching, scholarship and service.

Our staff continues to work diligently to provide the best advisement for the undergraduate education major population. We continue to refine our services to keep students involved in the College while working to integrate our activities into the larger campus.

**Instructional Resources Center**

The Instructional Resources Center web page has been redesigned to include information on computer labs, equipment for circulation, and policy and procedures. Check it out at http://coe.gasou.edu/irc/IRCHome.htm.

At the end of spring semester, the IRC received funds for three mobile teaching stations and a “Smart Classroom”. This equipment has been purchased and is waiting outside the computer labs for the stations. The “Smart Classroom” will be permanently housed in a classroom, while the mobile teaching stations will be available upon request from the IRC. Additionally, two digital video cameras were purchased and are available for circulation to those interested in pursuing multimedia projects.

The Ollie Mae Jernigan Children’s Literature Collection will be dedicated this fall. Mrs. Jernigan’s gift will be used to reflect her commitment to literacy and its critical role in education. Materials will be purchased to update the present IRC collection and add additional new titles.

**Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development**

The Educational Leadership Program, working with Counselor Education and Special Education, is providing a new program to school professionals who work for Associated Ministries in Effingham County, Liberti, and the six course web-based program that helps these professionals, spread across six states, to apply sound leadership, administrative and instructional methods to their setting, the juvenile justice system.

**Tenure & Promotions**

Dr. Ken Clark and Dr. Judi Repman were promoted to Professor.

**Department of Teaching and Learning**

A reorganized Ed.S. program in Teaching and Learning has been presented to the Board of Regents after over a year of much collaborative planning led by Dr. Deborah Thomas. Proposed to begin in this academic year, the degree will replace the existing Ed.S. degree in early childhood, reading, middle grades, secondary, instructional technology, special education, and P-12 teaching fields. The degree will provide advanced graduate work for those who currently hold M.Ed. degrees or certification in one of the existing approved teaching fields in Georgia.

Dr. Alice Hosticka and Dr. Greg Chamblee will be involved in math/science grants during the 2003-2004 academic year. They will be working with area schools involved in improving science and math instruction at the elementary school level.

Through all of these efforts, our graduate enrollments have increased dramatically over the past two years. The College of Education is consistently responsible for over two-thirds of all graduate enrollment at Georgia Southern! As we continue to focus on our graduate curriculum and meeting regional needs, we will also continue to work closely with the College of Graduate Studies and the Admissions Office to improve the graduate admission process.

The office has also been busy getting prepared for alumni and development activities. The Alumni Advisory Board and the COE’s Board of Advisors will meet again this fall. We plan to celebrate Homecoming with our alumni at the football stadium and invite them to a special CLEC lecture in November (see article on page 8). We are gearing up for the University’s Capital Campaign and look forward to highlighting the many wonderful opportunities for supporting the College of Education.

**Office of Graduate Studies, Research, Sponsored Programs and Development**

We are offering graduate programs at several off-campus sites including Augusta, Brunswick, Dublin, Effingham County, Liberty County, and Savannah. The Ed.D. programs in Curriculum Studies and in Education Administration continue to develop and expand to better serve the needs of the region.

Graduate faculty in Counselor Education, Educational Leadership, and teacher education continue to reflect on their programs in order to meet the expectations outlined in the USG Board of Regents’ Principles. Graduate programs are becoming more involved in P-12 partnership activities, especially our Counselor Education and Educational Leadership faculty who have been involved in supporting school improvement and educator preparation with the Screven County Professional Development District. We will also be initiating several graduate opportunities through our new international initiatives, the International Learning Community (U.K.) and Xalapa (Mexico).
Dr. Scott A.L. Beck joined the Department of Teaching and Learning as assistant professor this fall after completing his Ph.D. in Language Education at the University of Georgia during the summer of 2003. Dr. Beck taught at Georgia Southern during the previous three years as a temporary instructor in the Department of Early Childhood Education and Reading. He holds an M.Ed. in Middle Grades Curriculum and Instruction from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1994), a B.A. in Linguistics from Cornell University (1987), and a Georgia Middle Grades teaching certificate with an ESOL teaching endorsement. Prior to teaching at Georgia Southern, Dr. Beck was Curriculum and Outreach Specialist for Live Oak Migrant Education Agency/First District RESA from 1994 to 1999. His research and writing focuses on issues of multilingual and multicultural education in the rural South, particularly regarding the region’s fast-growing Mexican-heritage population. He has presented at a number of national and international conferences and has published both book chapters and in respected journals.

Dr. Michael L. Daniel joined the Department of Teaching and Learning as Assistant Professor of Special Education beginning fall 2003. Dr. Daniel holds an Ed.D. in Special Education from The University of Southern Mississippi (1996), and both an M.Ed. in Remediation/Special Education (1993) and a B.S. in Economics (1985) from Francis Marion University in Florence, South Carolina. Dr. Daniel has experience teaching at the graduate, undergraduate and high school levels. Prior to moving to Georgia Southern, he served as the Training Coordinator for the Youth with disabilities and Employment Success (YES) grant at the Institute for Disability Studies at the University of Southern Mississippi. His most recent scholarly work, a collaborative manuscript published in the May 2002 edition of Intervention in School and Clinic, is entitled “Teaching the History of Science to Students with Learning Disabilities.”

Dr. Saundra M. Nettles was appointed Chair of the Department of Curriculum, Foundations and Reading effective July 1, 2003. Since 1994, Dr. Nettles had held the position of Associate Professor of Human Development in the College of Education at the University of Maryland at College Park. While at Maryland, she was Research Program Director with the University of Maryland Consortium on Race, Gender, and Ethnicity. She was also affiliated with the Institute for Minority Achievement & Urban Education and with the Afro-American Studies Program.

Dr. Nettles holds a Ph.D. in Psychology (1976) and an M.S. in Psychology (1974) from Howard University, an M.S. in Library Science (1968) from University of Illinois, and a B.A. in Philosophy (1967) from Howard University. Her research interests include school renewal; risk, resilience, and development in children and adults; community-school connections; informal learning in science, technology, and youth development; and psychological study of women.

Dr. Nettles succeeds Dr. Cordelia Douzenis Zinskie who served as acting chair for two years.

Dr. Walter S. Polka joined the Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development in January 2003 as an associate professor with the Educational Leadership Program. He now also serves as coordinator for the program’s M.Ed. and Ed.S. degrees. Dr. Polka received his Ed.D. in Curriculum Planning from SUNY at Buffalo (1977); an S.E.A. in Educational Administration (1974), M.S. in Educational Foundations (1971) and M.A. in History (1970) from Niagara University; and the B.A. in History from SUNY at Buffalo (1968). He has also completed post-doctorate studies at Harvard University and at Florida State University.

Dr. Polka has experience teaching at the high school level as well as teaching graduate level courses. He worked in school districts in New York as curriculum coordinator, assistant superintendent for instruction and superintendent. From 1990 until his move to Georgia Southern, he held the position of Superintendent of Schools at Lewiston-Porter Central School District in Youngstown, NY.
A Day on Campus With Teachers of Tomorrow

November 12th will see the arrival of high school students involved in Future Educator, Teacher Cadet, and Teacher Apprenticeship programs for the College of Education’s “A Day on Campus with Teachers of Tomorrow.” The participants will explore the question, “Why Teach?” The event will include a keynote address on teaching and small group sessions exploring a variety of topics such as career choices, classroom practices, preparing for college, and others. For more information, contact Dr. Amy Heaston at aheaston@gasou.edu.

Living Learning Communities

Two Living Learning Communities involving education majors can be found in the university’s residence halls this year. The Education FIG (First-Year Interest Group) is in Watson Pods. There are approximately 30 freshman education majors in the group. The Eagle Educators are in Watson Commons with approximately 15 sophomore education majors in the group. The COE’s Office of Undergraduate Teacher Education is actively planning ways to connect with and involve these freshmen and sophomores interested in education.

Xalapa Teachers Program

Dean Cindi Chance and Dr. Nancy Shumaker, Director of the Center for International Studies, visited schools and universities in the state of Veracruz, Mexico, in May 2003 to develop cooperative exchange programs with Georgia Southern and those institutions. The College of Education is collaborating with two universities in Xalapa, to bring a group of newly-graduated Mexican teachers to the U.S. These teachers will assist in Georgia classrooms as paraprofessionals for one year and then assume the responsibilities of a classroom teacher for two additional years. During that time, they will complete a Master’s program in the College of Education. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the visiting teachers, but also for Georgia Southern’s faculty, students, and partner schools. We hope to find many ways to address issues related to diversity while these teachers are with us.

Georgia Southern at Oxford

In summer 2003, ten graduate students participated in the Georgia Southern at Oxford Program. The group visited upper and lower level secondary schools in Oxfordshire and participated in sessions with British educators at the Wadham College campus. Through these experiences, the students were able to compare and contrast the educational systems and cultural issues impacting schools and children’s learning.

The program participants also studied topics related to Anglo-American relations using primary sources located at the British National Archives. With the continuing “war on terrorism,” the “special relationship” between the U.K. and the U.S. has even more meaning and made this study particularly relevant and interesting.

There was ample opportunity to sightsee in London and throughout the countryside. Excursions were made to Bath, Windsor, Canterbury, Stonehenge, and Cardiff, Wales. The students enjoyed a day at Kentwell Hall, a grand Tudor manor that comes to life each year with the recreation of Tudor life of the 16th century, followed by a meal at Hatfield House with entertainment by King Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I. The program this year was the best ever in all respects, thanks to the wonderfully inquisitive and adventurous group of students.

For more information on COE programs and activities, visit the College of Education’s website at http://coe.georgiasouthern.edu/
1951  Hazel E. Donaldson Altman retired in 1980 after teaching for 32 years. She taught in Baxley, Bacon, Coffee and Jeff Davis counties. She has been married for 55 years and has one son, Don. She lives in Alma, Georgia.

1966  Marilyn Woody Bass is currently teaching biology, anatomy & physiology and AP Biology at the Savannah Arts Academy, a charter school in Savannah, Georgia.

1968  “Jesse” E. Bradley Jr. resides in Griffin, Georgia. He has been the superintendent of the Griffin-Spalding County School System since April 1997. He was Education Supervisor and Deputy Warden from 1993-1997 with the Georgia Department of Corrections. He also was a teacher, assistant principal, principal and superintendent in Tattnall County, Georgia. From 1976-1982 he was a banker at The Tattnall County Bank in Reidsville, Georgia.

1969  Judy E. Stevens O’Neal taught French and English at Southeast Bulloch High School and then moved to UGA where she received her M.Ed. in 1976. She taught for 2 years at the University of Athens Academy. After moving to Savannah, she taught at Calvary Baptist Day School until 1989. She, her husband John and daughter Laura moved to Tybee Island in 1983. She obtained her real estate license in 1989 and is now Broker and President of Tybee Island Realty, which she and her husband own together. She is also a free lance writer for The Tybee Breeze entertainment magazine.

1972  (Linda) Sharon Coleman Musselwhite was an elementary, middle and gifted classroom teacher from 1972 through 1990 in Cobb County, Dekalb County and Waycross City Schools. She was RESA Consultant for the Okfelenokee RESA from 1990-2003. She received her Ed.S. in Leadership from Valdosta State University. She is the mother of two, Ryan (26) also a Georgia Southern graduate and Ross (24) a graduate of UGA.

1975  Caro Joyce Odum Roberts lives in Sylvania, Georgia. She retired after 30 years of teaching special education.


1978  (Linda) Sharon Coleman Musselwhite was an elementary, middle and gifted classroom teacher from 1972 through 1990 in Cobb County, Dekalb County and Waycross City Schools. She was RESA Consultant for the Okfelenokee RESA from 1990-2003. She received her Ed.S. in Leadership from Valdosta State University. She is the mother of two, Ryan (26) also a Georgia Southern graduate and Ross (24) a graduate of UGA.

1981  Cherri F. Beall Hawkins has been teaching kindergarten since 1981. She currently is working on her master’s at Georgia Southern and will graduate in 2004. Cherri resides in Dublin, Georgia.

1982  Roger S. Burgoon lives in Statesboro, Georgia. He was a media specialist in 1973-74 in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. From 1975-1998 he was a media specialist at Stilson Elementary in Bulloch County.

1987  Jennifer B. Funderburk taught mathematics for 12 years in Colquitt County. She completed an education specialist degree in secondary mathematics and added the leadership certification from Valdosta State University. She received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching in 1998 and was a state finalist for the 1998 Georgia Teacher of the Year. She also received a GTE Growth Initiatives for Teachers Grant in 1993. For the past 4 years she was an assistant principal at Colquitt County High School and is currently the Director for School/Community Relations and Middle School Grades Curriculum for Colquitt County Schools. She resides in Moultrie with her husband Darrell, an assistant principal at Colquitt County High School, and their 3 year old daughter Elizabeth.

1991  Lawonda Peacock Gillis is teaching 7th and 8th grade math at Dodge County Middle School in Eastman, Georgia. She is currently working on National Board Certification in Early Adolescence Mathematics. She began work on her Ed.D. in Curriculum Studies at Georgia Southern in the fall semester, 2003.

1993  Cheri F. Beall Hawkins has been teaching kindergarten since 1981. She currently is working on her master’s at Georgia Southern and will graduate in 2004. Cherri resides in Dublin, Georgia.

1994  Debra Allen Davis taught school from 1975-1980. She has been a single parent since 1992. She has also taught at a private school in Macon and currently works out of her home in Macon as a bookkeeper. Her oldest son Daniel is a graduate of UGA and is presently in school in Italy. Her daughter Christie is a senior at Georgia State University, Julie, when a freshman at Georgia Southern, died in February 1998 on her way home. Her youngest son John is a sophomore in high school.

1995  Donna M. Blackwell has been teaching for over seven years in Hall County. She completed her master’s in middle grades education at Brenau University in 1999. She recently had her second son, Bodie, who joins 2 year old Bryce. Jenna lives in Gainesville, Georgia.

1996  Tracey E. Embly Pace lives in Clyo, Georgia. She received her Th.D, from Anderson Theological Seminary in May 2000. She also is the founder and president of the Heritage Counseling Center, PC, in Rincon, Georgia, and a Georgia licensed professional counselor, since 1999.

1997  Carol D. Miller Lemke lives in Hinesville, Georgia. She taught art education in Metter and Savannah for four years and then worked at the Savannah College of Southern Educator
**The College of Education Memorial Scholarship**

The College of Education Memorial Scholarship was established in 1983 by a group of Marvin Pittman Laboratory faculty to honor those who chose teaching as a career. It is a living memorial in that the interest earned on the principal is used to annually fund a scholarship for a young person who is preparing to teach. The first scholarship was awarded in 1986 and has been awarded annually.

We are proud of the scholarship and of those individuals whose names appear on the plaque which reads:

“This plaque honors those who have served Georgia Southern and the field of Education. In their memory, the College of Education Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established.

- Evelyn Anderson
- Malcolm Katz
- Paul F. Carrell
- Dorris Lindsey
- Marjorie Crouch
- Walter B. Mathews
- Elizabeth Donovan
- J. Aubrey Palford
- Marion Dozier
- Jacquelyn R. Russell
- Bertha Freeman
- Gladys Waller
- Zach S. Henderson
- Marie Wood

Anyone may make a contribution to the College of Education Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Georgia Southern Foundation (account #3284) as a gift or in memory of a COE or Marvin Pittman Laboratory School faculty/staff member. With a gift of $150, the name of a former faculty/staff member will be added to the plaque. Contact Dianne Hickman at dianyh@gasou.edu for further information.

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**15th Annual National Youth-At-Risk Conference**

Over 100 presentations at the 15th National Youth-at-Risk Conference, March 7-10, 2004, will focus on the theme, Successful Programs for Empowering Youth: Overcoming Poverty, Violence, and Failure. The conference will provide participants with information on research-based programs and strategies to reduce at-risk conditions that threaten student safety, health, emotional well-being or academic achievement. Conference sessions will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Savannah.

The conference is designed for educators of all levels, health and human service personnel, criminal justice professionals, business and community leaders, volunteer service providers, social workers, preventionists, and others interested in the well-being of youth. Several “High Flying Schools” with high levels of achievement, poverty, and minority representation will be showcased. Keynote speakers include Jim Brown, Hall of Fame football player and President/Founder of the Amer-I-Can Program in Los Angeles; Betsy Roger, National Teacher of the Year, 2003; Diane Antolak, Principal of Reid Ross Classical Middle and High School, a “High Flying School” in Fayetteville, NC; and J. David Hawkins, Director of the Social Development Research Group, University of Washington, Seattle Washington.

For more information, see http://conted.gasou.edu/yar.html or contact the Georgia Southern Division of Continuing Education and Public Service at 912-681-5557.

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**International Schooling Colloquium**

On November 3, the Center for the Study of International Schooling is sponsoring a colloquium on the topic UK-USA: Partnership in Education. For more information, contact Dr. Gregory Dmitriyev at gregodmi@gasou.edu.

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**IN MEMORY OF**

**Dr. William Lawrence Hitchcock**
6/29/19 to 7/14/03
Professor Emeritus
Educational Psychology and Counseling
September 15, 1960 through September 1, 1979
College of Education, Georgia Southern University

**“Highly Qualified” Teachers**

A Focus of No Child Left Behind

Last November, Associate Dean Dr. Jennie Rakestraw was asked by the PSC to help coordinate the state’s Title II-A efforts of the NCLB legislation. Over the past months, Dr. Rakestraw has been instrumental in development of a set of guidelines for the implementation of Title II-A for Georgia and an evaluation instrument that will be used by systems beginning this fall to assess whether or not veteran teachers who are not certified to teach subjects they are qualified in can be appropriately assigned. She has been working with a variety of systems. She’s had the opportunity to work with troubled teenage girls at the YDC and has thoroughly enjoyed it.

**2002**

Pamela S. Corley resides in Douglasville, Georgia. She has been working with a variety of students. She’s had the opportunity to work with troubled teenage girls at the YDC and has thoroughly enjoyed it.

**2003**

Hannah L. Helfon is attending graduate school at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Her major is Speech-Language Pathology.

Mary-Ester Sexson Hartley resides in Savannah, Georgia, with her husband/childhood sweetheart, Dustin Hartley. She earned her undergraduate degree in 1997 from Georgia Southern and just completed her master’s. She has taught special education in Savannah for the past 6 years.

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**Congratulations**

Barbara Brown
of Screven County Middle School
Finalist for Georgia Teacher of the Year 2004
Georgia Center for Education Renewal

The newly established Center for Education Renewal focuses on partnerships to facilitate improved teaching and learning in schools, especially for under-served populations. Beginning this fall, under the leadership of an interim director, the Center will promote existing and new partnerships among members of the P-16 community—locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally. The Center will facilitate the activities of the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) and HOLMES memberships, the Center for the Study of International Schooling, the Center for Educational Leadership and Service, and the COE Publications Center.

During the 2003-04 academic year, a national search is being conducted to fill the position of Goizueta Endowed Chair in Educational Administration/Leadership and Founding Director of the Georgia Center for Education Renewal. The College invites applications and nominations for this newly established 12-month, tenure-track position. For the full position description, see http://coe.gasou.edu/eltr/searches.htm.

Garbarino to present And Words Can Hurt Forever

Dr. James Garbarino of Cornell University will visit Georgia Southern on November 10, and present a lecture on the topic And Words Can Hurt Forever, at 7:30pm in the College of Education Lecture Hall. Dr. Garbarino is Co-Director of the Family Life Development Center and Elizabeth Lee Vincent Professor of Human Development at Cornell University.

He has served as consultant or advisor to a wide range of organizations, including the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the National Institute for Mental Health, the American Medical Association, the National Black Child Development Institute, Childwatch International Research Network, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, and the FBI. In 1991 he undertook missions for UNICEF to assess the impact of the Gulf War upon children in Kuwait and Iraq, and has served as a consultant for programs serving Bosnian and Croatian children.

Dr. Garbarino has authored or edited many books including And Words Can Hurt Forever: How to Protect Adolescents from Bullying, Harassment and Emotional Violence (NY: The Free Press, 2003) by James Garbarino and Ellen deLara.

Dr. Garbarino’s presentation, co-sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences and the College of Education, is free and open to all students, faculty, and members of the community.

ALUMNI: WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE YOU?

Name: ___________________________  First  Middle  Last  Maiden

Address: ___________________________  City  State  Zip

Phone: ___________________________  E-mail address: ___________________________

Graduation Date: ___________________  Degree/Major: ___________________________

What have you been doing since graduation?

_________________________

_________________________

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_________________________

Georgia Southern University does a good job of preparing teachers. They equipped me with the tools that I needed in the classroom. It was up to me to apply what I learned. My professors taught me to reflect and improve on my management and instruction daily.

I found that Georgia Southern University prepared me very well in becoming a first year teacher. I consider myself to be a successful first year teacher. I applaud GSU for giving me a wide range of field experiences as well as a good curriculum and methodology.

*The survey was the work of the Division for Educator Workforce Research and Development of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC).