Thank You, Dean Shiffler

In late March, Dean Ronald E. Shiffler announced he would assume the deanship of McColl School of Business, Queens University of Charlotte, NC, effective July 31, 2012. Dean Shiffler’s leadership in the College of Business for ten years, and as interim dean of Information Technology for four years, is significantly reflected in the national recognition Georgia Southern has enjoyed in recent enrollment, new programs, broadened visibility, and Carnegie Doctoral Research University status. When he arrived in 2002, Shiffler led the college in defining COBA’s vision of becoming a premier business school for prospective students, the regional community, and employers. The action plan included distinctive niche programming, engaging the business community, and branding COBA and its disciplines for increased recognition.

During his tenure, the college has grown substantially. COBA’s upper division undergraduate enrollment has increased 31.7 percent and undergraduate program offerings have expanded, including the School of Economics, the college’s regional economic development major, the forensic accounting programs, information systems, hospitality management, and construction management programs, together with an enterprise resource planning certification program. In COBA graduate studies, enrollment has grown a dramatic 76.5 percent while graduate education opportunities have expanded in the WebMBA®, master of science in applied economics, the executive MBA, and degree and broadband and mobile systems, network and computer security, game programming, and software engineering certification programs have been added.

The college has enhanced service, outreach, and applied learning opportunities with centers in entrepreneurial learning, forensic studies, sales, and financial services; software and training partnerships through National Cash Register, i2 Technologies, and Chainalytics; and, the City Campus with its Entrepreneur Zone and Bureau of Business Research and Economic Development.

The visibility of the college and its business programs has increased with significant endowments, including the third eminent scholar, a chair in banking.

COBA’s national reputation has been enhanced by rankings from The Princeton Review, GetEducated.com, U. S. News and World Report, CEO Magazine, and BusinessMBA.org. Today, COBA is nationally ranked 187th in undergraduate business programs, 121st in part-time MBA programs, and MBA and MAcc are among the top 294 business schools rankings in The Princeton Review.

Thank you, Dean Shiffler, and best wishes to you and Mrs. Shiffler.
A Message from Dean Shiffler

It has been a privilege to serve as your dean for the past 10 years. In addition to missing the campus and community, I’ll miss the student, faculty, staff, and alumni relationships that have grown into friendships.

The past decade has seen tremendous growth. Since 2002, new campus construction has produced the Recreation Activities Center, the Bishop Alumni House; residence halls Eagle Village, Southern Pines, and Centennial Place; the College of Information Technology building; and a complete renovation and expansion of Henderson Library. Our campus is lovely and modern—a great place to work and learn!

I will miss the Statesboro community, which warmly welcomed Barbara and me despite the fact that we were “not from around here.” My work with the Statesboro-Bulloch Chamber of Commerce opened many doors and led to many friendships with the business men and women of the region. There is a “can do” attitude in Bulloch County, in which everyone celebrates the success of others. Refreshing!

When I think of the new businesses and venues established in the past 10 years, I think of the Avrett Center for the Arts, Farmers’ Market, numerous restaurants and apartment complexes, the Market District, Buckhead business district, several new hotels, and City Campus. What a tremendous period of growth for Statesboro!

People are what matter, though, and the fine folks with whom I have worked and interacted will always be special. I salute the COBA and CIT staff who handle operational details, paperwork, lost students, and grumpy callers with a marvelous degree of professionalism. At the risk of offending those not named, I especially thank Carolyn Price and Lisa Williams, who are always upbeat, dependable, creative, and make the impossible, possible.

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Department News

Finance & Quantitative Analysis

Jerry Burke has been selected to serve as an associate editor of the Decision Sciences Journal, a top-tier journal in the fields of operations and supply chain management, as well as information systems and technology.

Barbara Price was recently elected to the Southeast Decision Sciences Institute (SEDSI) Council for a two-year term.

Information Systems

Cheryl Aasheim has been elected secretary for the SEDSI professional organization.

Tom Case addressed a faculty development conference for the Purdue School of Business, Salisbury University, MD, in January. His presentation featured the HEC Toronto’s ERP Sim game and SAP University Alliance.

Mallory Mitchell (FIN, 2010), an SAP associate analyst for Newell Rubbermaid’s Catapult Business Analytics, returned to campus for the Internship and Summer Job Fair sponsored by Career Services in March. She spoke to several information systems classes and the SAP@GSU Advantage student group, highlighting SAP career opportunities at Newell Rubbermaid, the value of ASUG involvement, and the TERP10 SAP Academy.

Management, Marketing, & Logistics

Nick DeBonis presented, “How the GaView Learning Management System and Internet can be used to create an innovative learning environment,” to the Connected & Mobile Learning session track of the University System of Georgia Teaching and Learning Conference: Best Practices for Promoting Engaged Student Learning held at Unicoi State Park Lodge, Helen.


Lindsay Larson welcomed Dr. Bruce Levine to her professional selling class in March. Dr. Levine received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Cincinnati. The nationally recognized psychologist, author, and lecturer addressed how cognitive explanatory styles of salespeople influence their success rates.

Scott Webb accompanied a team of Georgia Southern logistics students to Denver, CO, where fifteen universities competed in the annual Operation Stimulus Case Competition.

Kathleen Gruben, director of the Center for Retail Studies, recently accompanied retailing students Brent McFall, Rachel Oxford, Matthew Royal, Rachel Wakefield, Nicole Wanco, and Ashley White to New York to participate in the American Express and National Retail Federation intercollegiate competition. Nicole Wanco won a $2,500 scholarship from Toys “R” Us.

Logistics alumni Wes Perry and J. J. Cavanaugh, Exel Logistics, spoke to students in Karl Marrodt’s classes about career preparation and the 3PL industry.

Karl Marrodt presented findings from his research on warehousing metrics at the MODEX conference in Atlanta, one of the largest expos of materials handling equipment/technology in North America. Donnie Williams, LIT PhD student, chaperoned five undergraduate logistics students to the event.

Donnie Williams and Stephanie Thomas, LIT PhD students, attended Ohio State University’s Logistics Doctoral Symposium, dedicated to preparing doctoral students for academic careers. Topics included research methodology, working with co-authors, and dissertation research streams.

Mr. Phil Cobb, immediate past chair of the Construction Management Industry Advisory Board addressed a dinner honoring construction management graduates during which eighteen scholarships were awarded to continuing construction management students.

School of Accountancy

The student chapter of the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners hosted U.S. District Court Judge Lisa Wood, Southern District of Georgia, along with SEC Attorney William Dixon, Atlanta, an expert on the investigation and prosecution of insider trading.

Bob Jackson welcomed Bill Donaldson, deputy inspector general in the Office of the State Inspector General in Atlanta, to his governmental accounting class in early February. Mr. Donaldson described his path from graduation at Georgia Southern to his current position, including completion of his CPA and his CFE certifications.

Stephanie Sipe has been named editor of the Journal of Legal Studies in Business. In her employment law classes, Dr. Sipe welcomed guest speakers Mike Chambers, director of the Student Disability Resource Center, and Lt. Col. Timothy Gauthier.

School of Economic Development

Ana Isabel Grijalva Diaz, visiting professor from Sonora, Mexico, joins SED in 2012 on the equivalent of a Mexican Fulbright Scholarship to the U.S. Ana Isabel received a history degree from the University of Sonora, a master in social sciences from the Autonomous University of Sinaloa, Culiacán, Mexico.

Faculty Promoted and Tenured

Jacqueline K. Eastman Promoted to Professor of Marketing
Christopher A. Kadlec Promoted to Associate Professor of Information Technology and Tenured
Misty L. Langly Promoted to Professor of Management
Timur Z. Mirlaev Promoted to Associate Professor of Information Technology and Tenured
Linda G. Mullin Promoted to Associate Professor of Marketing
William I. Norton, Jr. Tenured
Joseph S. Rohland Promoted to Associate Professor of Finance and Tenured
Paige S. Rutner Tenured
Michael L. Thomas Promoted to Associate Professor of Marketing and Tenured

COBAns Attend National Advising Conference

COBA Advisors, Rashonda Bostic, Patti Kelly, Lisa Sapp, Leslie Sheppard, Stephanie Williams, Bobbie Williams, Jean Nesssmith, and Chris Lundy attended the National Academic Advising Association’s Region 4 Conference on quality academic advising for institutions of higher education, held in Miami, FL, during Spring Break, March 12–16, 2012.

COBA’s delegation presented “Extreme Makeover: The Transformation from Faculty-Driven Advisement to Center-Based Professional Advisement.” The presentation included visual depictions of the evolution of COBA’s advisement center to the state-of-the-art academic advisement center it is today.

Congratulations Donna Orme, Georgia Southern 2012 Staff Award of Excellence Recipient!
The Georgia Southern Chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) inducted thirty-one juniors, thirty seniors, four masters, and three graduate students to Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS) inducted thirty-one new members.


The Beta Gamma Sigma honor society is offered to those who serve its lifelong members. “The Georgia Southern Chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma is an Honor Society for students worldwide may receive. The mission of BGS is “to encourage and honor academic achievement in the study of business, to foster personal and professional excellence, to advance the values of the Society, and to serve its lifelong members.” The chapter honor society designation is offered to those who have furthered the ideals of the society through outstanding business and managerial leadership.

The Georgia Southern University chapter was formed in 1982 under the leadership of accounting professor Horace Harrell and former dean Ori James. Both undergraduate and graduate business majors are eligible to join, provided they are in the top 15 percent of the junior class and top 10 percent of the senior class. Dr. Groom was treated to a rousing reception, and a “try” for leaders; excuses are simply lies in seeking to destroy value of others. (3) The silly fool, the big mouth; (4) The sensual fool, being a “fool,” identifying the five progressive stages of leadership. She emphasized leaders must avoid the trap of being a “fool,” identifying the five progressive stages of leadership. She emphasized leaders must avoid the trap of

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Dr. Carter hosted the inaugural Carter Lecture by introducing featured speaker, Duquesne University Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Director, Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies, Dr. Alyssa Groom. The topic of her address was “Student Leadership: Lessons from a Recovering Fool!”

Dr. Groom identified leadership as a “calling” or “voice,” most often preceded by preparedness, knowledge, and intense search. She emphasized leaders must avoid the trap of being a “fool,” identifying the five progressive stages of leadership. She emphasized leaders must avoid the trap of

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The Zeta Delta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi and the Georgia Southern University Accounting Association sponsored the School of Accountancy’s (SOA) 22nd Annual Accounting Day Awards Banquet on May 3, 2012. The evening’s events began with a career fair for accounting majors. Twenty-two accounting firms and professional organizations with more than 50 industry representatives met with students to discuss full-time positions and internships. The evening ended with the annual awards banquet during which the School awarded scholarships.

Beta Alpha Psi President, Kenny Douglas, recognized several members for their active participation in the accounting honor society, and presented scholarships to LaShai Johns, Audrey Xu, Stanton Harrell, and Mitchell Smith. Kenny, joined by fellow officer Caleb Holloway, also gave special recognitions to Dr. Dwight Sneathen, who will relinquish his role as Beta Alpha Psi faculty advisor to Dr. Eddie Metrejean.

Accounting Association Vice President Josh Fox presented Accounting Association scholarships to Richard Winter and Audrey Xu. The Accounting Association presented the Professor of the Year Award to Nicholas Lynch.

Academic Achievement awards jointly sponsored by the Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs and area chapters were presented to Justin Davis and Collin Phillips by Wayne Yesbick, Draffin & Tucker, from the Albany Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs; Brandi Phillips and Tiffany White by Lindsey Bickmore, Moore Stephens Tiller, from the Coastal Georgia Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs; to Christopher Chernek, Rachel Clift, David Helton, Mary Kathryn Mason, Andrea Mok, and Delaney Tuggle presented by Cate Cassotta, Nichols Cauley & Associates, from the Heart of Georgia Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs; to Bridgette Jordan presented by Tal Johnson, of Dabbs Hickman Hill & Cannon, Savannah; from the Savannah Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs; and to Jonathan Eargle, LaShai Joshua, and Lauren Hughes presented by Dr. Chuck Harter from the Southeast Chapter of the Georgia Society of CPAs.

Stephanie Todd presented the Savannah Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants Academic Distinction Award to Michael Harshner, and Monica Woods presented the Coastal Georgia Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors Academic Distinction Award to Samantha Hairston.

Allison Jansen received the Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs Academic Excellence Award for being the SOA’s top graduating senior. This award was presented by Pauline Moore.

Billy Hickman, Dabbs Hickman Hill & Cannon, Statesboro, a charter member of the Accounting Advisory Council, presented the Accounting Advisory Council award to Shannon Brownlee.

Maryanne Scales, Becker CPA Professional Education, awarded Allison Jansen a full CPA review package and awarded half CPA review packages to Heather Stille, Cecilia Reames, and Andrea Mok.

The Southeast Georgia and Savannah Chapters of the Georgia Society of CPAs, jointly with the Georgia Society’s Educational Foundation, co-sponsored the Georgia Accountants’ Team Eftor program. Presented by Dr. Dwight Sneathen, this year’s recipients were Jeremy Story, Rachel Neely, Rebecca Beck, Qingqing Liu, Amy Stanley, and Kristen Birchett.

Kevin Lacier, Gifford, Hillegas & Ingwersen, Atlanta, presented the Ronald A. Lundstrom Scholarship in Forensic Accounting to Jyotsna Rao.

The Forensic Accounting Board

The Forensic Accounting Advisory Board held its 5th annual meeting in February and celebrated the 10th anniversary of COBA’s forensic accounting initiative.

Board chair Scott Hilson, KPMG, welcomed members of the board including Wes Sherrell, Department of Audits & Accounts; Chuck Owens, Ernst & Young; Jason Moran, FDC-Office of Inspector General; Bill Donaldson, Bill Donaldson, GBI; William Griffin, Secret Service; Sandy Peavy, FLET; Laurie Dyke, Investigative Accounting Group; Stephen Spiers, KPMG; Matt Duke, GBI; Vic Hartman, FBI; and Patrick Braley, Bennett Thresser.

Marc Effron, incoming board chair, announced the board’s strategic initiative of establishing a master in forensic accounting to maintain COBA’s national forensic education leadership. He recognized Lowell Mooney, chair, 2002 founding forensic committee, who described the conception and evolution of the program and thanked Don Berez, Center director, for his leadership in forming the advisory board.

For more information on any of our accounting programs, please contact: School of Accounting, P.O. Box 8141 • Room 2203, Statesboro, GA 30460-8141, Phone: (912) 478-2228, E-Mail: dsnaethen@georgiasouthern.edu, Website: http://coba.georgiasouthern.edu/depts/acc/.
**Spotlight on Graduate Studies**

**From the Directors**

**MSAE**

Donna Fisher announced he will be leaving COBA to direct regional economic development for Southern in 2001 and was instrumental in organizing the educational programs for the School of Economic Development (SED). Former MSAE Coordinator and SED Director Godfrey Gibbson recently announced he will be leaving COBA to become dean of College of Charleston’s North Campus, effective July 1. He has been with Georgia Southern since August 2002 and SED director since 2009. Dr. Gibbson will be responsible for academic program development for traditional and non-traditional students. A new bachelor of professional studies, an adult degree program, is under development and Dr. Gibbson plans to forge new partnerships in the community, “while putting people at the forefront of economic development,” he said.

**MBA**

The MBA Office is excited to announce its inaugural class of the new Executive MBA program (EMBA) for this fall. The EMBA is designed for the senior-level, business leader interested in strengthening their expertise. The new MBA program has an Entrepreneurial Leadership emphasis, which appeals to the needs of the student and employer in mind and is delivered with minimal professional interruption. It consists of 46 total credit hours, and the courses are in an online format with two on-campus residencies and an international experience as the capstone course. Dean Ron Shiffler said, “We expect to draw candidates from all over the United States. In addition to the convenience of learning online, students will take courses in ten-week sessions. This will give Executive MBA students the option of finishing their degrees more quickly than they would if the program were delivered in a traditional semester format.”

For more information on how to achieve an EMBA and to learn more about the program, please contact the MBA Office at (912) 478-5767 or email mba@georgiasouthern.edu.

The fourth annual William A. Freeman Memorial Lecture was convened by Dean Ron Shiffler, welcoming students and introducing lecture series benefactor, the late Bill Freeman, a 1957 graduate of Georgia Southern, who was president, chief financial officer, and director of Watkins Associated Industries and managing general partner of Wilwat Properties, Atlanta. Mr. Freeman endowed the William A. Freeman Distinguished Chair of Free Enterprise, Freeman Business Scholars Program including full, four-year scholarships in business, ten scholarships in the University Honors Program, and the COBA Professor of the Year Award since 1991—the year he was named COBA Alumnus of the Year. Prior to his death in November 2001, Mr. Freeman was inducted into the COBA Hall of Fame in 1998, named the Alumni Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award winner, and awarded an honorary Doctorate of Letters at the May 1999 graduation ceremonies.

William Pittman (MBA, 1997), vice president, product development for Total Merchant Services, Inc., a credit card payment processor, presented the lecture “Become an Entrepreneur: Anyone Can Do It!” Bill explained he once thought starting a business was not for him, and then he realized that hard work and dedication can bring success. For aspiring entrepreneurs, Bill advised “be a man of your word. One of the things I have learned is that you have to do what you say you’re going to do,” he said. “It is all about being true to your word.”

With a 1985 BS in chemical engineering from the University of South Florida, Bill began his entrepreneurial career as a chemical analyst writing software programs and decided to get an MBA at Georgia Southern.

While pursuing his MBA, Bill developed and grew GO Software, Savannah, a PC-based electronic payment processing system, to 50 employees and sold it to a Seattle, WA, firm. Later, another of his businesses, PC Charge, grew to become the industry standard in PC payment processing, now marketed by VeriFone Systems, Inc. Bill co-founded TPI Software, LLC, Redmond, WA, and developed the Smart Payments Server, which processed payments universally. TPI was purchased by Hypercom Corporation, a leader in payment processing, where Bill became vice president, Payment Solutions Group.

More recently, Bill started SoundPOS, LLC, a small business checkout system, and transitioned it to a private investment firm. He then accepted a senior products manager position at Hypercom Corporation, a leader in payment processing, where Bill became vice president, Payment Solutions Group.

The MBA is in its fourth year, and the inaugural class of 15 students will complete their degrees in Spring 2012. Students are receiving a top-quality education, and MBA students are among the best—through accreditation, affordability, and team-based learning opportunities. Our eleven-year history of delivering a quality-controlled, online program ensures our students are receiving a top-quality education.

The Georgia WebMBAs, the online master of business administration program offered by Georgia Southern’s College of Business Administration, along with five other members of the University System of Georgia, was ranked No. 15 in the Top 25 “Best Value” Online MBA programs by BusinessMBA.org, an online resource for information and rankings of the nation’s best business schools and MBA programs. While Arizona State University’s program took the No. 1 ranking, the Georgia WebMBAs program ranks ahead of other online MBA programs including those from the University of Memphis, Mississippi State University, and the University of Texas Online Consortium.

Georgia Southern has offered the master of business administration degree since 1969. Its graduates have achieved successful careers in finance, banking, marketing, manufacturing, logistics, information systems, economic development, accounting, real estate, human resources, entrepreneurship, and management among the best regional, national, and international firms and organizations. In an increasingly complex and changing world, Georgia Southern’s MBA emphasizes fundamental knowledge and skills for today’s modern administration, management, and executive decision-making. All the business programs offered by Georgia Southern’s College of Business Administration, including the Georgia WebMBAs, are accredited by AACSB International: The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

“Georgia WebMBAs adds significant value for our students in several ways—through accreditation, affordability, and team-based learning opportunities. Our eleven-year history of delivering a quality-controlled, online program ensures our students are receiving a top-quality education at a price they can afford,” said Ron Shiffler, lead dean and program coordinator for the Georgia WebMBAs. “We are excited to be recognized by BusinessMBA.org as a ‘Best Value’ in online delivery of the MBA,” he concluded.

The Georgia WebMBA ® is ranked #15 in the Nation.

**Business MBA**

®

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Paolo Ambrosini (ECON–Agri-Bus, 1986) has been advertising manager with the TV Cable Group, one of the largest and first cable providers in Ecuador since 2005. He is also owner and general manager of Comarketing, an advertising agency he founded in 2003.

After graduating from Georgia Southern, where he was on the swim team, Paolo returned to his native Ecuador to serve as a brand accountant and budget analyst for Colgate Palmolive. He was promoted to brand manager of the Home Care and Oral Care division of Colgate in 1990. In 1992, he left Colgate to work in marketing for the Gillette and Norelco Groups. In 1996, Paolo received his master of marketing degree from the Monterrey Institute of Technology in Mexico and worked for Coca-Cola in Ecuador as a marketing manager until 2003. After Coca-Cola, Paolo founded his advertising company, Comarketing.

Paolo and his wife currently reside in Guayaquil, Ecuador, with their nine children.

Nichole Calandra Krieger (MKT, 1994) is senior director of corporate and direct marketing for the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the congressionally chartered veterans’ service organization dedicated solely to the benefit and representation of individuals with spinal cord injury or disease. She has been the senior director of corporate and direct marketing since 2009. Her role includes managing the strategic direction of the Paralyzed Veterans’ Corporate Fundraising programs as well as PVA’s Direct Marketing and Motor Sports initiatives. These programs comprise almost 90 percent of PVA’s overall revenue totaling over $100 million per year.

Nichole has worked with the Paralyzed Veterans of America since 1995, primarily planning events such as the annual Paralyzed Veterans Americana Gala and the National Veterans Wheelchair Games, the largest annual wheelchair sporting event in the world.

Nichole lives in Arlington, VA, with her husband, Andy.

Dr. Andreas Zangemeister (GEN BUS, 1992) is currently a director and shareholder of a group of telecommunications, travel, and energy companies. The Reise Service Deutschland (RSD) travel agency has experienced rapid growth by providing more than 300,000 customers trips to Turkey, Dubai, Malta, Cyprus, and Spain annually. RSD has plans to expand its operations to the United Kingdom and the United States.

After graduating from Georgia Southern, Andreas returned to his native Germany and graduated from University of Cologne in 1995. While working as a business consultant for the TUV Rheinland Group, he finished his doctorate in accounting and was promoted to CFO of a subsidiary within the TUV Rheinland Group. In 2002, he left this position to become the director of corporate controlling at Hubert Burda Media, one of Germany’s top three media companies, then accepting his current position in 2006.

Patrick O’Connell (LOG, 1999) is employed with the Hilti Corporation, a global leader in construction tools with a presence in more than 120 countries worldwide, as head of warehouse, Central Europe. He is responsible for all warehouse operations in Switzerland, Belgium, The Netherlands, Germany, Poland, and Austria. This challenge has been a unique opportunity for him to experience multiple cultures, different logistics concepts, and new languages as he traveled the region.

After graduating from Georgia Southern, Patrick worked for eight years for Menlo Worldwide Logistics and relocated multiple times to include Dallas-Fort Worth, Minneapolis, Atlanta, and Memphis. While with Menlo, he received his MBA from the Terry College of Business at The University of Georgia (2004).

In 2007, Patrick joined Hilti Corporation as director of distribution in Tulsa, OK, responsible for its eastern U.S. and Canada distribution facilities. He was promoted to head of warehouse, Central Europe in 2011. Patrick is a past international president of Delta Nu Alpha (DNA), an international organization of professional men and women in the field of transportation and logistics. He was introduced to DNA while a student at Georgia Southern.

Patrick and his wife, Emily, currently live in Düsseldorf, Germany.
The William A. Freeman Professor of the Year J. Lowell Mooney

Lowell Mooney received a BA, master of accounting, and a PhD in accounting, with minor in MIS, from The University of Georgia. He has been at Georgia Southern for 23 years and is a certified public and managerial accountant. Dr. Mooney is past president of the Education Foundation, Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants, which has provided more than $1 million in scholarships to accounting majors in the state, past director of the School of Accountancy, and past faculty advisor for Zeta Delta Chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, the accounting honorary fraternity. He has received several teaching awards including the Beta Alpha Psi’s Outstanding Faculty Award, Accounting Information Systems Educators’ Conference Best Paper Award, the college’s Martin NeSmith Service Award and Accounting Association’s Professor of the Year Award.

During his service as director of the School of Accountancy, Dr. Mooney initiated several programs unique to SOA, including Meet the Firms, where representatives seeking accounting majors come to campus; SOARING, a fall event for new and returning accounting majors; Principles Recognition Awards, a recognition program for students who excel in Acct 2101 and 2102; and, the School of Accountancy Leadership Council. Lowell Mooney is one of the best teachers in the college. Students report he cares about their classroom success and future careers, while peers recognize his service to students distinguishes him as one of COBA’s top professors.

The W. A. & Emma Lou Crider Award for Excellence in Teaching Feruzan Irani Williams

This year’s recipient of the Crider Teaching Award, Feruzan Irani Williams, was born to be in the classroom. Her students often remark in their evaluations that she is always well prepared and organized, as well as being extremely knowledgeable on the related subject matter. In addition to her knowledge and preparation, students often state that she is both caring and helpful inside and outside the classroom; however, both her student and peers agree that Dr. Williams’s funny, witty, and happy personality is the greatest contributor to her success as a teacher.

The CIT Award for Excellence in Teaching Cheryl L. Asheim

Cheryl Asheim’s student evaluations reflect student’s perception of her as an excellent instructor across all the dimensions surveyed. Since joining the School of Information Technology in 2002, Dr. Asheim has been actively involved in both the development of new curriculum and program development. Specifically, she was personally responsible for the development of the specialized area of information management in the IT program. She continues to play a leadership role in the ongoing development of this area as technology changes. In addition to her teaching and development of curriculum, Dr. Asheim co-authored and presented a paper, “Establishing an Assessment Process for a Computing Program” that won “Best Paper of the Conference” at the 2006 Information Systems Education Conference.

The CIT Award for Distinguished Service Hyo-Joo Han

Hyo-Joo Han’s philosophy is service offers a “meaningful, fun, and exciting” opportunity to make a difference. Her service at Georgia Southern includes serving as a member of the University Faculty Research and the University Student Conduct Board Committees. Outside of Georgia Southern, Dr. Han has served as a program chair for AMISE, as a founder and vice president of the Atlanta Chapter of Korean Women in Science and Engineering, as manager of a website for the IT committee of Korean Scientists and Engineers Association, as member of the editorial board for the Journal of Interactive Mobile Technologies, and as the guest editor for the International Journal of Emerging Technology in Learning.

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of Excellence

Faculty awards are based upon a variety of characteristics including research activities, teaching excellence, distinguished service, and development potential.

The M. Albert Burke Faculty Award
John Hatem
John Hatem has been an faculty at Georgia Southern since 1990. He teaches BBA and MBA students and is highly rated and liked by students. So much so that it is not uncommon for students to take a course with him more than once. He consistently serves Finance & Quantitative Analysis and COBA in various capacities and he is two-time winner of Best Paper Award for the Academy of Financial Services. Dr. Hatem also mentored a team of students for the Chartered Financial Analysts competition this year.

The Brown & Williamson Faculty Award
Karen Hamilton
Since joining Georgia Southern in 2006, Dr. Karen Hamilton has taught a number of graduate and undergrad- uate finance courses. She has consistently been regarded by the students as an excellent teacher. Dr. Hamilton has also been an active researcher, presenting her research at various conferences and publishing peer-reviewed papers in areas of retirement planning and economic development among others. In addition to her excellence in teaching and research, Dr. Hamilton serves in support and leadership roles on numerous COBA and departmental committees and is highly regarded by her fellow faculty members.

The Sonny Butler CIT Award of Excellence
Christopher A. Kadlec
Dr. Chris Kadlec is a student-centered professor who creates activities for students that most in academia would consider non-traditional. For example, he created and continues to lead an event called Telscan, an event where students transform two open networking labs twice a semester into gaming labs. Dr. Kadlec is also the faculty advisor for the student chapter of the Association of IT Professionals (AIP), which is actively involved in Georgia Southern’s Techweek, and was an active leader in an event called Hackathon, which is part of “Geekend 2011.” At Hackathon, he organized and directed students in providing IT support for an event in which groups of software developers compete to build a new product in 24 hours. In addition to his service to students, Dr. Kadlec serves the faculty as a member of the University’s Graduate Curriculum Committee, CIT Technology and Instructional Resource Committee, departmental faculty and staff search committees, and as a volunteer in “Operation Mow-in.”

The CIT Staff Award for Excellence
Linda Carwell
As the “heart, soul, and brains of CIT,” Linda Carwell has proven herself an indispensable member of its staff. This fact is apparent by the countless phone messages and emails that are waiting for her when she is out of the office. While working for a number of bosses, Linda not only performs excellent at her job, she is also always willing and able to assist others with theirs too. Members of the CIT staff know that not only will Mrs. Carwell assist them in getting their task completed, she will make sure that it is done right the first time. Therefore, it is fitting that such a cableted member of

The Tomlinson & Bond Families Staff Award for Excellence
Jeanette Hadden
As a member of the management, marketing, and logistics staff, Jeanette Hadden has proven herself to be a vital member of the department. Her dedication and work ethic to assist MM&L faculty and students has proven instrumental to their success. In addition to her dedication and work ethic, Ms. Hadden has proven her intelligence countless times when solving difficult problems within the department. Therefore, it is appropriate that such a vital team member of both the MM&L department and COBA receives the Tomlinson & Bond Families Staff Award for Excellence.

Stuart receives the Staff Award of Excellence for CIT

The Eagle Executive Society Faculty Award
Linda Mullen
The winner of the Eagle Executive Society Faculty Award, Dr. Linda Mullen, is one of our best classroom teachers, she also is a consistent researcher and author and has maintained a heavy service load while at Georgia Southern. While some students say her personality is hilarious, others may say it is unusual, however, all her students say that they love her class.

Ron and Barbara Shiffler Instructor Award
Gloria Stuart
As a member of the accounting faculty, Gloria Stuart has proven herself as an excellent instructor by earning the respect of both her students and her peers. Her students remark that she cares about their success in the classroom and is extremely helpful. Her peers comment that Ms. Stuart is highly competent.

The J. Daniel Speight Banking Excellence Award
Edward H. Sibbald
Edward Sibbald’s career in commercial banking and corporate finance spanned more than 35 years. He joined the faculty of Georgia Southern University in 2006. His areas of expertise include retail banking management, finance, lending, credit/financial analysis, marketing, strategic planning, and performance improvement for community banks. He teaches classes in bank management, bank lending, bank decision-making and real estate finance.

The Olivia Suggs Flanagan Fellowship for Outstanding Teaching or Service
Charles Harter
The first recipient of the Olivia Suggs Flanagan Fellowship for Outstanding Teaching or Service award, Charles Harter, is one of the best professors in the areas of teaching, research, and service. As a member of the accounting faculty, Dr. Harter is a dedicated and respected teacher, a consistent researcher and heavily involved in service to the college, service to the school, and service to the accounting profession.

The William J. McCallum Jr. Faculty Award for Research Excellence
Karen Hadden
Jeanette Hadden has proven her intelligence countless times when solving difficult problems within the department. Therefore, it is appropriate that such a vital team member of both the MM&L department and COBA receives the Tomlinson & Bond Families Staff Award for Excellence.

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Coca Cola United
James T. Cole
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Nathan C. Coleman*
Carl B. Colledge

Margot M. Dawkins (ECON, 1976) is president of the Atlanta Advertising Novelty Company (AANC). Founded in 1928 by Alfred Morris, the company was purchased by Marc Morris, Margot’s father in 1961.

After graduating from Georgia Southern, Margot discovered her love for marketing by interning in Georgia Southern’s vice president of development’s office. After her internship, she began working at AANC and was promoted to president in 1990. In 1997, Margot purchased the company from her father.

Today, the promotional products distributor represents approximately 3,000 different manufacturers, including Hilton Hotels, The Coca-Cola Company, Okum Pest Control, and the March of Dimes. In 2010, Margot received the Promotional Products Association International’s Pyramid Award for her work with Georgia Power’s Earth Day Campaign design.

Margot has remained engaged with her alma mater. She served as president of the Georgia Southern Alumni Association in the early 1980’s and is currently an active alumni in the Group.

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Tracy Sharkey
Jennifer Hendrix
Danny Henry
Tracynn Henry
Heritage Bank of the South
during 2011 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.

Wei Wu
Service
Wei Wu has made quite an impact during his first year as a tenure-track construction management faculty member. His willingness to coach student competition teams, work as chair of the scholarship committee, and help in coordinating construction management faculty input on governance, are just a few of his numerous contributions this year. He is a person whom students, faculty, and industry representatives cite as a wonderful and talented addition to the department. We are happy he has joined our team!

Lindsay Larson
Teaching
In the short time Lindsay Larson has been at Georgia Southern, she has clearly demonstrated excellence in teaching. Her students praise her knowledge and presentation style, and say she is always able to engage them in the material—even when it is boring. She is a very worthy recipient for the Dean’s Citation for Excellence in Teaching.

Alan Mackelpราง
Research
Alan Mackelpราง recently joined us from South Carolina, but has already proven to be an excellent researcher with two publications in the top empirical journal in operations and supply chain management and another paper in a well-respected international journal of operations and supply chain management. This makes him a worthy recipient of the Dean’s Citation for Student Engagement.

Richard A. Mordecai Award,
Outstanding IS Graduate:
John A. Thompson
Susan Rebstock Williams Business Technology Scholarship: Courtney Rogers
Robert John Consulting SAP University Alliance TERP10 Scholarship: Markshea Whitley
SAP/Pig/SU TERP10 Scholarship: Sean T. Handle

Abbie Gail Parham
Student Engagement
Abbie Gail Parham is the chair of the School of Accountancy’s Student Retention Graduation and Instructional Resource Committee and is in charge of a number of student-centered events during the year. She works very hard to promote the accounting program and careers in accounting, making Abbie Gail a very deserving recipient of the Dean’s Citation for Student Engagement.

Yaseen Alhaj-Yaseen
Teaching
Yaseen Alhaj-Yaseen consistently scores almost perfect scores on student rating of teaching effectiveness. Students describe him as friendly, helpful, patient, available, organized, positive, and prepared. They often comment that while taking his class they can finally listen to the news and understand what is happening locally and internationally. For these reasons he deserves the Dean’s Citation for Excellence in Teaching.

Honors Day

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

Accountancy
Paul LaGrona Scholarship:
Courtney E. Martin
Delaney N. Tuggle
The Educational Foundation of the Georgia Society of CPAs Academic Excellence Award: Allison E. Jansen

Computer Science
Computer Science Student of the Year Award: Zachary Reynolds

Economic Development
Emerging Scholar in Economics Award:
Cameron H. Randall
SED Award for Academic Distinction: Landon J. Latham
Award for Excellence in Achievement: Economics of the Free Market: Edito J. Del Castanhe Filho
SED Opportunity Scholarship: Samantha Smith
Omicron Delta Epsilon:
Jeffery Campbell
Kevin Alexander Rodriguez Castillo
Raymond Alexander Hamilton
Mathieu Lacasse

Information Systems
Ulysses S. Knotts, Jr. Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: Jesse T. Floyd
Albert J. Roseel Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate: Karl W. Miller
Harris Computer Systems Award:
Daniel L. Fletcher
Buddy Litchy Information Systems Award, Outstanding IS Graduate:
Ashley L. Harrell

Information Technology Award for Excellence, Outstanding IT Student: Kadisa T. Johnson
Information Technology Award for Excellence, Academic Achievement Award: Travis G. Williams
Information Technology Excellence in Service Award:
Patrick R. Howard
Adrienne K. Smiley
Christopher Sterling
Kenneth L. Vann

Management, Marketing, & Logistics
Logistics Student of the Year:
Latifah N. Harris
Top Management Student Award:
Lindsey N. Strickland
Top Marketing Student Award:
Vandue I. Cunningham
Chian A. Miller
Top Sales Student Award:
Brittanie D. Brandt
Giacomo Family Memorial Scholarship in Marketing: Jazin M. Tribble

Homecoming 2012
Saturday, November 3
Georgia Southern vs. App State

COBA Golf Tournament
Friday, May 17, 2013
Forest Heights Country Club
Accounting

Roland Berry (1972), Kathleen, has been promoted to chief of Air Force Reserve Operations and Maintenance Budget, managing a $3.4 billion budget for the Air Force Reserve at Robins AFB. His son, Ted, Jr., is a COBA logistics graduate. Email: roland.berry@us.af.mil.

Charles “Bo” Fennell (1992), Statesboro, is now the general manager for Walker Pharmacy and Home Medical. Bo completed Leadership Georgia in 2011. While at Southern, he was a member of the golf team for four years. Bo is married to Keely NeSmith, a 1991, Georgia Southern management graduate. Email: bo@walker rx.com.

B. Brent Hinley (1992), CPA, formerly in Brunswick and with Georgia Power, is now retired and living on Hilton Head Island, SC. He is married to Donna McAfee. Email: rbhinley@hargray.com.

Mark A. Smith (1997), formerly in Sugar Hill, is now in Atlanta, where he is vice president-senior research analyst for StifelNorton Capital Management. His wife is Rebecca. Email: mark.a.smith@stifleriver.com.

Robert Drew Hulsey (1984), formerly in Ashland, Kentucky, is now in Orlando, where he is the regional financial manager of a Fortune 500 company. Email: rhulsey@wells.com.

Joel L. Sammons (1999), formerly in Savannah, is now in Atlanta. He is married to Jennifer Powell, a 2000 Georgia Southern MAcc graduate. Email: jlsammons@gmail.com.

Erik J. Kramschuster (2009), formerly in Brunswick and with Georgia Power, is now in Euharlee, GA, where he is a tax associate with PriceWaterhouseCoopers. Email: trey.e.burgamy@us.pwc.com.

Sara Callan Lord (2009; MAcc 2010), Dexter, is a staff accountant and auditor with McNair, McMurrey, Middlebrooks, CPAs, Macon. Email: clord@mmcpa.com.

Adam W. McCord (2009), formerly in Midville, is now in Smiths Station, AL, where he is the accounting manager for Griggs, Inc., Phenix City, AL. He oversees the accounting departments for three corporations and a partnership in oil and gas distribution. Email: awmcord@colostate.edu.

Holly Smith (2009), Stone Mountain, is a staff accountant/CPA with Brooks McGinnis & Company, Atlanta. She is married to Robert Eddon, Jr., a 2004 Georgia Southern MAcc graduate. Email: hudson@brooksmcginnis.com.

J. Albert Williams (2007), Darien, is the assistant compliance officer for Southeastern Bank. Email: jawstar@hotmail.com.

Charles B. Altman, III (1998), Statesboro, is in business sales CSR with Martin Marietta. His wife is Debra. Email: paulr@hascom.com.

Kyle K. Byrd (2007), formerly in Lithurn, is now in Buford, where he is the regional financial analyst for Sherwin-Williams- Tucker. He is also a CFA from the National Association of Credit Managers. Email: kyle.byrd@sherwin.com.

Bobby Aaron Bethune. Email: lbethune@selfmark.com.

Lauren E. LaChance (2010), Grovetown, is a staff accountant for Cherry Bekaert & Holland, CPAs, Augusta. She is married to Bobby Aaron Bethune. Email: lechance@cherry.com.

Robert W. Hadley (1996), Old Greenwich, CT, is vice president of energy for Jefferies, New York. After working on the floor of the NYSE for ten years, he has been moved upstairs to trade crude, heating oil, gas, etc. Robert was on the football team. He is married to Julie Anne Cotter. Email: rwhadley3@yahoo.com.

Chris P. Lewis (2005), Richmond Hill, is a senior financial analyst with Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, Savannah. He is married to Catherine Reed. Email: clewis32@gmail.com.

Joel L. Sammons (2009; MAcc, 2009), Atlanta, is the financial reporting and assurance senior for Bennett Thrasher. He is married to Trip Addison, a 2009 Georgia Southern construction management graduate, on March 24, 2012. Joel is practicing law with Samantha F. Jacobs, PC, Jesup. Email: leahlewis@hotmail.com.

Joy S. Callen (2007), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Atlanta. She is a junior account manager at The Atlanta Bank Company. Email: samsr2@gmail.com.

W. H. “Billy” Warren (2009), Savannah, is the GM/CEO of Fleet Feet Sports on Waters Ave., Savannah. He is married to Jennifer Harris, a 2008 Georgia Southern management graduate.

Bruce W. Hulsey (1984), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Atlanta and was on the football team. Email: bhobbs555@gmail.com.

Sasha Marks (2009), formerly in Marietta, is now in Atlanta, where she is a junior staff accountant with The Atlanta Bank Company, Smyrna. Email: smarks2@gmail.com.

Paul F. Kessel (1979), president of The H. A. Sack Co., Statesboro, has been named to the board of the Independent Electrical Contractors (IEC). His wife is Debe. Email: paul@hascom.com.

Nick Propps (1998), Statesboro, a realtor and manages Blockshear Properties, has been named as one of the “20 under 40” by the Statesboro Herald. His wife is Melanie.

Alex M. Hopkins (2010), Jesup, is now the project development manager for The Conner Law Group, Savannah. Email: alex.m.hopkins@gmail.com.

Leah Marie Lewis (2008; MBA, 2009), Jesup, is now in Buford, GA. She is a 2009 Georgia Southern construction management graduate. Email: leahlewis@hotmail.com.

J. Albert Williams (2007), Darien, is the assistant compliance officer for Southeastern Bank. Email: jawstar@hotmail.com.

Neal Thomas (2010), formerly in Statesboro, is now in Buford, where he is a program manager in the U.S. Air Force.

Melanie. Email: melanie@selfmark.com.

The Statesboro Herald.

J. Albert Williams (2007), Darien, is the assistant compliance officer for Southeastern Bank. Email: jawstar@hotmail.com.

Meghan Elizabeth Powell Law (2006), Statesboro, is in business sales CSR with Northland Communications. She is married to Brian E. Law. Email: megala2@gmail.com.

Robert W. Hadley (1996), Old Greenwich, CT, is vice president of energy for Jefferies, New York. After working on the floor of the NYSE for ten years, he has been moved upstairs to trade crude, heating oil, gas, etc. Robert was on the football team. He is married to Julie Anne Cotter. Email: rwhadley3@yahoo.com.

Jason P. Owen (1995), Buford, is CFO of Gentile Health Services, Atlanta. His wife is Debra. Email: pow210@gmail.com.

Darron M. Burnette (1988), Statesboro, has been named president and CEO for Sea Island Bank, which he joined in 2002. In 2010, he received the Synovus William B. Turner Humanitarian Award for outstanding service to others. Darron and his wife, Kimberly, have two daughters, Courtney and Caroline. Email: burnette4@bolloch.com.

Kelly M. Kahley (1990), Brooklet, is now a mortgage loan originator with The Coastal Bank. Her husband is Karl.

Nick J. Dereszynski (1993), formerly in Fayetteville, NY, is now in Fall City, WA, where he is regional vice president for Brown & Brown, Inc., an insurance company. Nick is married to Tracie Westray and was on the football team. Email: rderezynski@bbins.com.

The Statesboro Herald.

Terry Watson (FIN, 1997) began his career in the building industry with a Fortune 500 company. After five years, he decided to become an NFL sports agent and, during his third year at Cumberland School of Law (Samford, JD, 2006), he became certified with the National Football League Players’ Association (NFLPA).

Shortly after Terry founded his company, Watson Sports Agency, he had the fortune of signing his first, and what would later become his most successful, client Corlann Finnegan from Savannah.

Since 2005, Terry has represented more than fifteen NFL players as his company has ascended to new heights. In March 2012, Terry negotiated a five-year, $51 million contract on Courtland’s behalf with the St. Louis Rams, which, at $27 million, provides the largest guarantee for a defensive back in NFL history.

Terry and his wife Anna (kinesiology, 1997) reside in Marietta and have three children, Jacob (4), Merritt (3) and Whittaker (3 months).
Christopher J. Newland (2011), Statesboro, is now the compliance manager with the Brand Fierland Advisors, Savannah.

General Business

C. Ray Josey (1967), Valdosta, retired in 1996 from DFCS but returned to active duty in 1998 to be the transition coordinator for Georgia Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond. An expected three month job turned into ten years including a stint as deputy commissioner. Ray fully retired in 2008. His wife, Janeen, is a 1967 business education graduate. Email: cjrjosey@mchsi.com.

Duane C. Arnold (1988), formerly in Costa Rica, is now in Belize, where he is a project manager for Fyffee’s International Fruit Company’s banana operations. He is married to Helen Smart. Email: dcmoldal11@hotmail.com.

Denny M. Tucker (1996), Cumming, is now a senior systems integrator for Agilysys, Alpharetta. He is married to Ashley Parrish. Email: ducker09@gmail.com.

Information Systems

Janice W. Woods (1982), Savannah, after many years with First Chatham Bank, is now the senior vice president-retail sales manager for First Citizens Bank. She is married to Williams Woods.

James S. “Jim” Hampton (1990), formerly in Montana, is now in Rutherford, NC, where he is the IS operations manager for the Rutherford Regional Health Systems. His wife is Cheryl. Jim is a certified professional in health information systems and working on a master of health care administration. Email: james_steelman_hampton@me.com.

Stephen R. Smesny (2003), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Vidalia, where he is director of IS for Meadows Regional Medical Center. He is married to Christy Revels, a 2003 Georgia Southern psychology and a 2012 MED graduate. Email: ssmesny@meadowsregional.org.

Archibald M. King, Jr. (2010; LOG, 2010), formerly in Lilburn, is now in Bay Shore, NY, where he is an SAP specialist with Fasta Hauppauge, NY. Arch was in China for 2½ weeks to implement a new warehouse system. His wife, Jordan, is a 2010 Georgia Southern political science graduate. Email: archking@gmail.com.

Logistics

Amy Alexandria Esther (1996), formerly in Nashville, TN, is now in Dawsawnville, where she is the marketing manager for Carestream Health, Atlanta. She is married to Jeremy Gibson, and they have a daughter, Drew Margaret, born June 17, 2011. Email: alexigibson913@yahoo.com.

James M. Eunice (2003), formerly in Folkston, is now in Belton, SC, where he is the fleet manager for Walgreens, Williamsburg, SC. He is married to Toni Chapman. Email: james.eunice@walgreens.com.

C. Ray Josey (1967), Valdosta, retired in 1996 from DFCS but returned to active duty in 1998 to be the transition coordinator for Georgia Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond. An expected three month job turned into ten years including a stint as deputy commissioner. Ray fully retired in 2008. His wife, Janeen, is a 1967 business education graduate. Email: cjrjosey@mchsi.com.

Jeff Grant (2003), Statesboro, an HR Department employee for the City of Statesboro, has been selected as one of the “20 under 40” by the Statesboro Herald.

Krzysztof Janiszewski (2011) is now working with CSX Corporation, training in Chicago. Eagle basketball fans remember Kris—a center on the basketball team.

Travis Torrence (2011), Smyrna, is an intermodal operations specialist for Schneider National, Fairburn. Email: travis.torrence7@gmail.com.

Samuel Matt Wasson (2011), formerly in the ‘Boro, is now in Garden City, where he is a dispatcher with Miller Transporters. Email: ssawson1@georgiasouthern.edu.

Management

Tommy Bond (1973; MBA, 1975), Atlanta, is the owner of Southeast Property Advisors and chair of the Georgia Southern Foundation Board. His wife is Kelly, and they have a daughter, McKintry. Tommy was an outstanding member of the basketball team. Email: tsbond@mindspring.com.

Lucie Lord (1978) has been appointed to the Georgia Board of Dispensing Opticians by Gov. Nathan Deal. She is pictured with Gov. Deal (right) and husband, Dr. Whit Lord (left) as they, along with optometrists from around the state, were honored in May.

Troy S. Hates (1997), formerly in Atlanta, is now in Superior, CO, where he is the owner of Hates Design. He is married to Holly Nicole Sheppard, a 1998 Georgia Southern merchandising major.

Joe Harbough (2000; MBA, 2004), formerly in Hudson, FL, is now in Lithonia, where he is the operations coordinator for Aggreko, LLC. He is married to Jennifer Dilworth. Email: harbough@yahoo.com.

Jyclyn Cason (2001), Pembroke, general manager for Frontier Communications, Statesboro, has been selected for the Statesboro Herald’s “20 under 40.” She is married to Jody Cason.

Brent R. Jackson (2001), Jacksonville, FL, is now in Lithonia, where he is an SAP specialist with Agilysys, Statesboro, the logistics supervisor for Newell Rignel, of Savannah, married Miranda Danielle Blake, a 2008 Georgia Southern hotel and restaurant management graduate, on March 24, 2012.

Crystal M. McCorcle (2008; MBA, 2010), Claxton, an independent Mary Kay sales director, married Lee “Will” Clarke, Register, on April 14, 2012.

Krista Michelle Waagner (2008), Winterville, NC, is married to James C. Morris.

Jennifer Harris Warren (2008), Savannah, is the office assistant to The Lady and Sons. She is married to William H. Warren, III, a 2009 Georgia Southern finance graduate. Email: jenni7007@aol.com.

Kyle R. Shaver (2010), Thomassville, is now a benefits specialist with Flowers Foods, Inc. He is married to Katherine R. Shaver, a UGA alumna. Email: kshaver11@gmail.com.

Justin Patrick (2011), an operations manager with Sizemore, Inc., a diversified contract services company in the ‘Boro.

Marketing

Patrick G. Blanchard (right) (1966), vice chair of the Board, First Bank of Georgia, Augusta, was recently recognized by Derek Williams (left), past chair, Community Bankers of Georgia, for fifty years of service to community banking. Carolyn Brown, president & CEO of the Community Bankers Association, presented Blanchard with a Resolution commemorating his commitment and service.

Dr. Rabyn Hans (1976; MED, 1979), Clermont, has a private psychology practice in Gainesville. She is married to Bruce Fisher. Email: drabhans@gmail.com.

Keith Dukes Willis (1985), Phenix City, AL, is the owner of Subway of Ft. Mitchell, AL. He is married to Sherwanda Crowell. Email: keithdukeswillis@yahoo.com.

Brandee B. Johnson (1990), Saint Simons Island, is the owner of the Bad Hair Day Salon. Email: brandeebeth@netscape.net.

Heather C. Radcliffe (1992), Savannah, vice president of Speros, has been accepted as a member of the Savannah Chapter of the National Association of Women in Construction. She was the women’s volleyball team.


Kimberly Kimball Lanier (1995; MBA, 1998), Savannah, is the VP/property manager for Lanier Realty, a company owned by Kimberly and her husband, Jody. She and Jody have four children, Ashley (11), Hunter (9), Tanner (6), and Emily (4). Email: kimlanier@lanierrealty.com.

Ginny H. Starling (1996; MBA, 2000), Statesboro, a realtor with Coldwell Banker/Taggart Realty, recently married Jeffrey W. McPhail, a 1994 Georgia Southern marketing grad.

Jamie L. DeLoach (2003; WebMBA, 2010), Rincon, is now a branch manager for The Coastal Bank in Rincon. He is married to Jenni Echols, a Georgia Southern alumna. Jamie is also an ambassador for the Effingham County Chamber of Commerce. Email: deloach8@hotmail.com.

Allison B. Hagen (2004), Athens, is a homemaker. She is married to Jason McCormick. Email: aliciannmccormick@aol.com.

Monique S. Smith (2004), formerly in Union City, is now in Forest Park, where she is with the Clayton County School System. Email: moniques1980@yahoo.com.

Phillip W. Whitley (2004), Naylor, is the finance manager for World Finance. He is married to his college sweetheart, Nicole Cross, a 2004 Georgia Southern psychology graduate, and they have a daughter, Braylin (2). Email: pwwhitley@hotmail.com.

W. Kent Warner (2007), Chambless, is now the market manager of E-commerce for Ace Industries, Norcross. He was formerly an inside sales rep. Kent is married to Jessica Brummett. Email: warner_kent@yahoo.com.
ALUMNIVILLE

Bryan L. Smith (2007), Los Angeles, CA, has a choreography business. He was in LMAO’s video “Sexy and I Know It,” which has more than 230 million views on YouTube. Bryan also coaches a number of schools’ cheer teams in the LA area. Email: bsmith06@gmail.com.

Shauna M. Swain (2007), Atlanta, is engaged to John C. Riggs, a Georgia Southern COE graduate and city councilman in Statesboro. Email: sswan1@email.georgiasouthern.edu.

Corey J. Grant (2008), formerly in Smyrna, is now in Atlanta, where he is the internal auditor for Genuine Parts Company. Email: cgrant12@alumni.georgiasouthern.edu.

Jessy M. Heim (2009), Atlanta, is a nanny/personal assistant with the Locke Domestic Agency. Email: heim777@gmail.com.

Sina N. Hilbert (2009), Macon, is a territory manager for Nestlé and listed as a rising star in the HR manager (North American operations) position. Email: jegodschosen@gmail.com.

Lisa Renée Hein (2008), Savannah, is an assistant sales manager at White House Black Market. She is engaged to David Wayne Frizzell, a former Marine Corps sergeant from Savannah. A November 10, 2012, wedding is planned.

Jennifer Michelle Long (2009), formerly in Douglasville, is now in Atlanta, where she is the HR manager (North American operations) for E. C. Harris (U.S.), Inc., an Arcadis Company. She will receive her MBA in May 2012 and has been accepted into Sigma Xi.

Markita L. Jones (2008), CPA, Pooler, is now a tax accountant with Deemer Dana & Froehle, Savannah. Email: ajones@ddfcpas.com.

John Thomas Daley (2010), Lawrenceville, is a staff accountant with Agee Fisher Barnett, LLC, Atlanta. Email: jtd147@georgiasouthern.edu.

Yichen Zhang (2010), formerly in New York, is now in Jersey City, NJ, as a dynamic associate with KPMG, LLP, New York. She recently received the KPMG Encore Award. Email: yichenzhang@kpmg.com.

William C. Gruver (2011), Savannah, is an audit team member with Deemer Dana & Froehle, CPAs, Savannah.

Julia Renée Walker (2011), formerly in Alpharetta, is a retail sales consultant with AT&T. Email: jwalk39@gmail.com.

Jeremy J. Edmund (2011), Marietta, is now a customer service rep with Verizon, Alpharetta. Email: jegadchsen@gmail.com.

Calvin J. Horsom (2011), Fayetteville, is a professional clothier with Tom James Co., Atlanta, and is in the running for top rookie of the year for Tom James, the largest custom clothier in the world. Email: chersom@tom-james.com.

Jason Walker (2010), Alpharetta, is a retail sales consultant with AT&T. Email: jwalk39@gmail.com.

Kerry Herndon (1993), Athens, is the regional manager for the Georgia Department of Revenue, Athens. He is married to Angela Wells, a 1993 Georgia Southern graduate. Email: keithendan85@yahoo.com.

Robert D. Owen (1998; Spanish, 1994), Cary, NC, is now the sales director for Serena Software. His wife, Allison, is a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: rowen@serena.com.

Robert L. Menti (2000), formerly in Harker Heights, TX, is now in El Paso, an active duty in the U.S. Army. He is now Col. Menti. Email: robert.menti@us.army.mil.

Christy L. Lawrence (2001), Savannah, is now the development liaison administrator for the City of Savannah. With a civil engineering degree from Duke, she had been with Thomas & Hutton Engineering since 1995. Christy is married to Brian Lawrence. Email: christylaw29@hotmail.com.

Sarah E. Smith (2005), Statesboro, the director of admissions for Georgia Southern has been selected as one of the “20 under 40” by the Statesboro Herald. Email: sarahbausmith@yahoo.com.

Trip C. Addison (2009; BS CONS, 2008), Atlanta, economic development and natural resource policy advisor for the Office of the Governor, recently married Ashley N. Francis, a 2009 Georgia Southern MSAE graduate.

John C. Fleming (2009), Minden, LA, is a student at the Mississippi College of Law. Email: jcfleming3@gmail.com.

Melissa L. Halt (2010), Savannah, is the program manager for 650 EIS for Gulfstream Aerospace. She is married to Michael Matthew Gesser, a Georgia Southern alumna. Email: melissa.gesser@gulfstream.com.

Julia G. Hudson (2010), Marietta, is a sales rep with Lilly USA. Email: juliaeg02@sol.com.

Erin Thompson Hughes (2010), Statesboro, is a partner in quality coordination for Memorial Health Partners, Savannah. She is married to Jeremy Hughes. Email: erin.thompson@memorialhealth.com.

Loren Waldo (2010), Richmond Hill, is now a senior sales manager/product support sales for Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., Savannah. Email: loren.waldo@gulfstream.com.

Rey Y. Ortiz (2011), Millcreek, HI, has been selected for a commission in the U.S. Air Force as a medical service corps (MSC) officer. Because Georgia Southern’s MBA is accredited through AACSB, Rey was offered a direct promotion to the rank of first lieutenant. Only 66 applicants were accepted into the MSC this year from the entire country. Rey is a registered nurse at Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, HI. His wife is Lynn. Email: reyortiz@yahoo.com.

In Memoriam


Eagle Executive Society and “Blue Card”

☐ I would like to become a member of the Eagle Executive Society. Enclosed is my $50.00 payment.

☐ I am not interested in the Eagle Executive Society. Please update my information as shown below.

Full Name (include maiden name) _______________________________ Spouse’s Full Name (include maiden name) _______________________________

Georgia Southern Graduation Year(s) Degree(s) Major(s) Spouse Degree and Year _______________________________ _______________________________ _______________________________

Home Address City State Zip Home Address City State Zip

Home Phone Number ( ) Business Phone Number ( ) Cell ( )

Employer Business Title _______________________________ _______________________________

Business Address City State Zip

E-Mail Address _______________________________

Preferred Address for delivery ☐ Home ☐ Office

Please return this form to Lewis Stewart, COBA Alumni Editor, P. O. Box 8002E, Statesboro, GA 30460-8002 or use the QR code, right, to join the Eagle Executive Society.
In Memoriam — Aridian Greca

Dr. Aridian Greca, associate professor of computer science, died at age 43 on April 3, 2012, following a long and courageous battle with lung cancer. One of the brightest stars in the College of Information Technology, Dr. Greca grew up in Albania, earned a bachelor of science in electronic engineering from the Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania, and worked for the Directory of Customs, Ministry of Finance, in his home country before leaving Europe to earn a Ph.D. in electrical and information engineering from the Yamagata University, Japan, in 2000. His doctoral work was in network survivability with ATM and optical emphasis. He later received a post-doctoral fellowship at NTT Network Innovation Laboratories, Kanagawa, Japan, to research next generation optical path network design.

Dr. Greca joined the faculty at Georgia Southern in 2001 as the Yamacraw professor, immediately making a significant, positive impact on students. His prolific research output, publishing more than 30 refereed journal articles and conference proceedings, earned him a reviewer position for the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers publication board. Dr. Greca’s hobbies were soccer, basketball, and traveling the world. He very much loved his family, who survive him from as far away as Tirana, Albania, and Queens, NY, to as close as Brooklet. In CIT and COBA, he will be remembered for his eternally positive attitude and happy personality, even at the lowest of points with his cancer. May the spirit of Dr. Greca be with us, forever.

The PKF Consulting Visit

Pictured at the reception are (l-to-r) Alex Kowalczyk, president, Hospitality Management Club; Larry Staticup, associate professor, hospitality management; Robert Mandelbaum, director information systems, PKF Consulting; Tucker Nelson, president, Accounting Association; and Wade Tillman, vice president, Hospitality Management Club.

COBA welcomed Belk, one of the leading retailers and major brands in the southeast, to campus in March. Dave Penrod, Belk Southern Division chair, led a delegation, including Nancy Pierce, HR director; Mark Sonesenheim, regional manager; Mike Lucas, local store manager; Deidre Sutter, divisional merchandise coordinator; and Jean Marzanski and Amanda Varnadore, COBA alumnae and assistant HR managers. The Belk delegation breakfasted with several students, met with COBA internship coordinators, and toured campus. Belk will be offering 100 internships for Georgia Southern students this summer in more than 300 Belk stores and division offices.

Belk Partnership

COBA welcomed Belk, one of the leading retailers and major brands in the southeast, to campus in March. Dave Penrod, Belk Southern Division chair, led a delegation, including Nancy Pierce, HR director; Mark Sonesenheim, regional manager; Mike Lucas, local store manager; Deidre Sutter, divisional merchandise coordinator; and Jean Marzanski and Amanda Varnadore, COBA alumnae and assistant HR managers. The Belk delegation breakfasted with several students, met with COBA internship coordinators, and toured campus. Belk will be offering 100 internships for Georgia Southern students this summer in more than 300 Belk stores and division offices.

“Why Good People Make Bad Decisions”

Diann Cattani grew up in a small Idaho town with a large family, received a volleyball scholarship to Brigham Young University, majored in business management and psychology, and, had a successful career in promotion and advertising. She was a valued, trusted, and integrated employee in a rapidly growing company, and her career path was the epitome of success.

Today, Diann is a financial fraud investigation consultant for A Closer Look, LLC, and the Investigative Accounting Group, Inc., Atlanta. In February, she presented the 9th Annual Forensic Expert Legal Conference “Why Good People Make Bad Decisions,” sponsored by COBA’s fraud examination and forensic accounting program. Cattani acquainted her audience with the fraud triangle, a forensic concept developed upon perceived pressure, rationalization, and opportunity. A fourth factor, capability, is considered by many forensic researchers to be equally important.

In Diann’s view, it was opportunity and capability that pushed the fraud door wide open for her. She explained how she transitioned down the “slippery slope” between business and personal expense. “The characteristics and skills that make leaders successful—inclined, ego, and confidence, along with coercive and coping skills—also make fraud easy,” she said. Diann lost her job, career, and husband and served an 18-month sentence in a Florida federal prison, a period she described as “scary,” and filled with “hopelessness and helplessness. When you go to prison, your family and friends go to prison with you,” she pointed out.

Diann concluded Italian dramatist Conte Vittoria Alfieri was correct, “often the test of courage is not to die, but to live.” She lives and has built a new career on strengths gained from the ordeal. Described by The Wall Street Journal as the “face of white collar crime,” Diann’s career now focuses on prevention, deterrence, and investigation of financial fraud in white collar crime.