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**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Reflective Educators for Diverse Learners

Southern Educator

May 23, 2012

Volume 1 Issue 5

Upcoming Events

- May 31 International Quantitative Reasoning Symposium
- June 4 Southeast Conference on Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports
- June 16 Alumni Event in Atlanta, Atlanta Braves vs. Orioles
- June 20 Curriculum Studies Summer Collaborative
- June 28 Graduate Research Workshop

[More announcements.](#)

Board of Advisors Profiles

(An occasional series of profiles on COE's Board of Advisors)



Sheila Garvin Hoynes, a COE

COE Graduates Nearly 500 Students at Spring Commencement



COE graduated nearly 500 students during Georgia Southern University's 84th spring commencement ceremonies held Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12, 2012. More than 2,200 undergraduates and 400 graduate students were awarded Georgia Southern degrees during the ceremonies. There were 165 undergraduate COE degrees conferred. The 323 COE graduate degrees awarded this spring represents 80 percent of all graduate degrees awarded by Georgia Southern.

Honors Students Present Capstone Projects

Two College of Education honors students presented their capstone projects at the fifth annual University Honors Research Symposium, April 29, at the Nessmith Lane Conference Center. The Honors Program is designed to "foster the development of a critical sense of inquiry, a spirit of creativity, a global perspective and an ethic of civic responsibility," according to university documents. As part of that process, honors students are encouraged to use experiential learning, service learning and research to bring their ideas to life. As seniors, honors students present Honors Thesis/Capstone project. [Read more about COE's Honors Students.](#)



L-R, Amanda Arasmith, Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson and Kathryn Crenshaw..

Retired Faculty Honored at Luncheon

COE held its first Retired Faculty Luncheon May 8, at the Eugene M. Bishop Alumni Center. Attending were Lella Bonds, Charles Bonds, Dale Grant, Bill Cheshire, Cherry Brewton, and Paul Dixon. Current faculty attending included Ronnie Sheppard, Marti Schriver, Fayth Parks, Deborah Thomas, Tracy Linderholm, Randy Carlson, Cordelia Zinskie and Kent Rittschof.

alumna, is a life-long educator and continues to serve even after her retirement as a first grade teacher. She has served as President of her Alpha Delta Kappa Chapter, a national organization for outstanding women educators; treasurer of the local chapter of Professional Association of Georgia Educators (PAGE) and President of the Rockdale Retired Educators Association. She is also a member of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools visiting committee in Georgia. A passionate Georgia Southern alumna, she has been a member of the Georgia Southern Alumni Board of Directors, serving as President from 2000-2002; a member of the Georgia Southern Athletic Foundation Board of Directors; and has been on the COE Board of Advisors since 2004. She is a member of Zeta Tau Alpha National Fraternity. She received her BSed from Georgia Southern College and her MED from the Savannah Graduate Center at Armstrong Atlantic State.



Diane Teel Wood, a COE alumna, has spent a lifetime in schools. Now, after 18 years of doing this work as a volunteer, Wood is working fulltime at Robert McQueen High School in Reno, Nevada. She continues to volunteer, however, and is currently president of the McQueen Boosters Guild (PTO), on which she has served for five years. For 17 years she has held local and district level positions in both Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting, and for the past two years has been a member of the Blue Star Mothers of America. She is a registered nurse and received her BSed degree from



Alumni Advisory Board Meets

COE's Alumni Advisory Board is back to business. The board held its spring meeting on May 1. Left to right, Todd Williford, Tracy Linderholm, Deborah Thomas, Becky Petewich, Bob Lake, COE Dean Tom Koballa, Lydia Cross, Pat Parsons and Chris Thompson.

COE Alumni Event at Atlanta Braves Game

Join fellow alumni and friends at an Georgia Southern Eagles event hosted in part by COE for our alumni and friends. Eat, drink and enjoy this private event at Turner Field followed by the Atlanta Braves vs. the Baltimore Orioles game on Saturday, June 16.

Your ticket to this event includes a ticket to the June 16 Braves game vs. the Orioles AND a pre-game pass to the Right Field Patio where food and drinks (leaded and unleaded) are included before the game.

Two different seating options are available this year. Outfield Pavilion tickets are \$50 for adults and \$40 for children 2-12.

Upper Box tickets are \$35 for adults and \$25 for children 2-12. (Children under 2 are Free). Groups that would like to sit together must purchase their tickets together in one order. The pre-game activities will begin at 5:15 p.m. with the game to follow at 7:15 p.m.

The deadline for purchasing tickets is Wednesday, June 6 at Noon, so please plan ahead. [Click here for more information on ordering your tickets.](#)

Faculty News

Dr. Jim Bergin was named the Georgia School Counselors Association Region 12 Counselor Educator of the Year. **Drs. Jason LaFrance** and **Dan Calhoun** published "Student Perceptions of

Georgia Southern.

Kudos to Matt Kempton, senior Middle Grades Education major for being named Peer Leader of the Year, First-Year Experience.

Wikipedia as a Learning Tool for Educational Leaders" in *International Journal of Educational Leadership Preparation*, June/July 2012. **Ian Lubin's** paper, "Mapping Changes in Science Teachers' Knowledge: Concept Maps and Authentic Professional Development" was accepted for publication in *Journal of Science Education and Technology*. **Thomas Koballa** published "Mentoring in Support of Reform-Based Science Teaching" in Second International Handbook of Science Education. **Nancy Arrington** presented on "Third Graders, Music, and Grandfriend: Teacher Action Research with Service-Learning in Elementary School" at the 10th Annual Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning.

COE Receives Final Approval for Graduate Degree Certificate Upgrades

The Board of Regents on May 8, 2012, gave final approval for changes the College of Education has made to some of its M.Ed. and Ed.S. programs to ensure that upon completion teachers qualify for certificate upgrades. Although there are minor curricular changes, some of the names of programs will change and all of them will move to a 100% online format as of Fall 2012. [Click here for more information on the upgrades.](#)

