University Honors Program Recognized at National Collegiate Honors Council 2013 Conference

November 19, 2013

This year’s annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council in New Orleans gave the University Honors Program several opportunities for recognition. Attending and presenting at the program were Director Dr. Steven Engel, Associate Director Dr. Francis Desiderio, Honors Advisor Erin Martin and Honors students Caroline Greene, Kelsey Keane, and Jana Simmons. Founding Director of the Bell Honors Program, Dr. Hew Joiner, was also in attendance to be inducted as a Fellow of the National Collegiate Honors Council. The program also celebrated receiving third place in the magazine/newsletter competition for its magazine *Honors@Georgia Southern*.

Both Caroline Green and Jana Simmons presented research in the Student Poster Sessions with Greene discussing “College Students Attitudes and Perceptions of Adults with Disabilities” and Simmons showing “The Impact of Gubernatorial Constituencies on Medicaid Expansion.” Kelsey Keane discussed her research paper “So It Goes: Hope Amidst the Apparent Chaos of Slaughterhouse-Five” during a Student Interdisciplinary Research Panel.

Dr. Joiner, also a past president of NCHC, was recognized for his contributions to honors education at all levels from Georgia Southern to across the region and country and around the world. His wife Martha and daughter Jenna accompanied him to the award ceremony.

The third place award for *Honors@Georgia Southern* marks the second time in as many entries that magazine has placed in the top three in this competition. The award was accepted by Co-Editor Kelsey Keane who, with Paola Robelo, developed a strong team of writers and photographers for our most recent issues focused on study abroad (2012) and undergraduate research (2013). We look forward to the next issue coming out in the spring.

The group also had an opportunity to explore New Orleans and learn a little bit about the conference’s host city. The students participated in City as Text™, one of the signature programs of the conference where attendees visit interesting sites and report their findings back to the larger group. This year’s program had 31 different sites around New Orleans.

The National Collegiate Honors Council annual meeting is the main conference for honors programs and colleges, and it gives faculty, administrators, and students a chance to come together, discuss best practices, and learn from each other.