

## CLASS Notes

April 29, 2011

Georgia Southern University

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# CLASS

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES

### notes



April 29, 2011

## Welcome to Georgia Southern University / College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences

Greetings!

I would like to thank all of our friends who joined us for *Evening of the Arts* on April 16. It was a lovely event that culminated in celebrating and honoring **Mrs. Betty Foy Sanders'** contributions to the arts. Highlights from the evening can be found below. We look forward to planning next year's event and to seeing each of you again.

In other news, we are excited that CLASS Advisory Board member [Chris Clark](#), current Georgia Chamber of Commerce President and a Georgia Southern alumnus, will give the keynote address at the graduate commencement ceremony on May 13.

I am pleased to tell you that five CLASS professors were among the students' top 10 rankings for Professor of the Year:

- **Olivia Edenfield**, associate professor of Literature and Philosophy
- **Hemchand Gossai**, associate professor of Literature and Philosophy
- **Debra Sabia**, professor of Political Science
- **Danny Dixon**, associate professor of Sociology
- **Craig Roell**, professor of History

We are also very proud of our students who were recognized this year on Honors Day, April 6:

- The student speaker was **Katie Brookins** (double major in Writing & Linguistics and History)
- The recipient of the University System Academic Recognition Award (the highest honor of the morning) was **Kate Beasley** (double major in Writing & Linguistics and Spanish);
- and the co-winners of the Georgia Southern University Alumni Association Award were **Kate** and **Cassie Beasley**. This award recognizes the student(s) with the highest number of hours and the highest GPA. The Beasleys both have 4.0 GPAs.
- The Roy Powell Award winners were **Luke Easterwood** (nonfiction), **Smith Holloway** (fiction), **Kaela McNeil** (poetry), and **Marjorie Nussbaum** (flash prose).

From the Department of Communication Arts, 1990 alumnus **Wendell Williams** moved to Sydney, Australia in 2006, and he is currently working for Fairfax Media, Australia's largest media company, as the General Manager for Fairfax Media Syndication, managing all international media contracts and negotiations as well as the monetization of their content worldwide. [Beau Turpin](#), a 2009 alumnus, is heading to Hollywood to pursue a [career](#) in the film industry.

Also, GSU's Theatre and Performance program is sharing stories from around the world with children at local elementary schools. Last Friday the cast of *Folk "Tails"* took its 45-minute children's play to Sally Zetterower Elementary. Directed by Theatre major **Anastasia James** and performed by **Brook Vickers, Eric Carter, Jamie Williams, Alina Lianguert, Patrick Galletta, and Mikey Naus**, the short plays were adapted by Professor **Lisa L. Abbott** from a selection of international folktales. The stories include "The Monkey's Heart" from India, "Coyote's Revenge" from North America, "Why There are No Tigers in Borneo" from Indonesia, "Bremen Town Musicians" from Germany, and "Anansia's Dinner Guest" from Ghana. This Friday the troupe will be performing at Julia P. Bryant Elementary during regular school hours and at Mattie Lively Elementary's after-school program, and next Friday they will be performing at Mill Creek Elementary's after-school program.

In the Department of Music, professor [Allen Henderson](#) was quoted recently in the *Wall Street Journal*. He also recently presented two major sessions at the national conference of the American Choral Directors Association in Chicago. The first, "Choral Directors are From Mars and Voice Teachers are from Venus: 'Sing from the Diaphragm' and other Vocal Mistructions," focused on common errant instructions heard in both the choral rehearsal and voice studio. The other, "Choral Directors are From Mars and Voice Teachers are from Venus: Top Ten Complaints from Both Sides of the Aisle," focused on perceived and actual divisions among vocal and choral professionals. Both sessions were constructed to help choral directors and voice teachers talk about pedagogical issues and develop a common pedagogical language in order to support effective student learning.

Also, Music major **Colby Parker** is completing two busy years:

- He was awarded the Emerson Scholarship (all expenses paid) to the Interlochen Center for the Arts summer program for two consecutive years. Successfully auditioning for Interlochen is an accomplishment in itself. Being awarded an Emerson Scholarship is quite remarkable. Being awarded the Emerson in consecutive years is quite extraordinary. According to an Emerson Scholarship administrator, Colby is the only tubist ever to have earned two Emerson awards.
- Last January, Colby recorded an audio/video audition for The Young Arts Week 2011, the core program of the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Only 6% of those who audition are selected to participate in this week-long event. He was the only tubist in the nation to be selected for the all-expense- paid t, held in Miami, Florida. Of the 150 participants, Colby won the \$3,000 third-place prize.
- In February, Colby successfully auditioned for the Boston University Tanglewood Institute summer program. Just last week, he was notified that he is the recipient of a \$4,500.00 award in scholarship funds from the Tanglewood Institute, where he will study with members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in both orchestral and chamber settings and in private lessons.
- Finally, Colby performed the first movement of the Gregson Tuba Concerto with the Georgia Southern University Orchestra on April 26 at First United Methodist Church in Statesboro.

In the Department of Foreign Languages, **Cathie Johnson**, whose article, "Activities Using Process-Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL1) in the Foreign Language Classroom," has been accepted for publication in the spring issue of *Unterrichtspraxis*. Also, Professor **David Alley** has received notification that his manuscript "Extra Credit Assignments in World Language Classes" was accepted for publication by *Hispania*, a leading journal in Hispanic scholarship.

- David also applied for a Faculty Development Grant from the university and his was one of only four proposals (out of 31) to be accepted for funding by the university. He will be developing a series of animated slide presentations on themes in Latin American culture for use in the Spanish 3335 class.
- David encouraged graduate student **Kayce Patrick** to present with him on Gabriela Mistral and Pablo Neruda at the March conference of the Foreign Language Association of Georgia (FLAG). Their presentation received very positive evaluations.

In the Department of Literature and Philosophy, Professor **Richard Flynn** has been elected to the Children's Literature Association Executive Board for his international impact among children's literature scholars. He will begin his 3-year term in June. Also, Georgia Southern's First-Year Experience program named **Ansley Callanan**, senior English major, the Peer Leader of the Year. **Brian Butler**, a 2008 alumnus in English, has been accepted to the University of North Carolina-Greensboro graduate school, where he has been awarded the Lyon Fellowship for \$4,500 for 2011-2012.

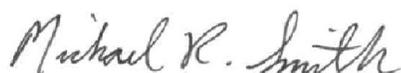
The Department of Literature and Philosophy and the Department of Writing and Linguistics are pleased to announce that Professors **Lori Amy** and **Thomas Klein** have been selected as the co-recipients of the 2011 Nichols/Hamlet Travel Award.

- Lori's award will fund research in Albania for her article "Present Pasts, Re-Membered Futures: Narratives of Identity and Nation in Post-Communist Albania," using narratives surrounding two highly controversial construction projects in the Capital's city center to map the relationship between individual identity under communism and cultural violence in the transition to a market economy.
- Thomas's award will provide support for two linguistics research projects. One is on the influence of sound structure (phonology) in the selection of variable prefix and suffix-like elements (allomorphy), and the other is on traces of Arabic and indigenous West African languages in Middle Caicos Creole English.

Also in the Department of Writing and Linguistics, [Jen Pirkle](#), a 2005 graduate and current graduate student at Georgia College & State University, won the fiction contest at the 40th Annual Writer's Contest at Agnes Scott College for her story *Guber County Bats*.

Best of luck to all of our students as they approach the end of spring term and final exams. Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors and graduate students!

Warm Regards,



Michael R. Smith, Dean

## Center for Irish Studies

Among other things, the Center for Irish Studies oversees the interdisciplinary minor in Irish Studies and facilitates an annual summertime study-in-Ireland program. Its public events are among the most vibrant and popular on campus and in the region.

One of our most exciting recent developments is the addition of a sequence of four Irish history courses. Applicable to the minor in Irish Studies, these offerings significantly broaden and deepen our curriculum. Profound thanks go to CLASS Dean Michael Smith, History Department Chair Jonathan O'Neill, and History Department faculty members James Wood and Robert Bachelor for their commitment to the process of creating the new courses. Next year, Dr. Woods will debut "Irish-American History since 1750," which will include a unit on the Irish in colonial Georgia. More immediately--in fall 2011--Dr. Bachelor will teach "The Making of Modern Ireland, 1558 to the Present." Congruent with the University's intensified focus on research, this course will emphasize archival research for undergraduates. A feature will be use of some Enlightenment manuscripts housed at Marsh's Library, founded in Dublin in 1701.

In February 2011, the Center hosted the Southern regional conference of the primary professional organization in its field: the American Conference for Irish Studies. Held in Savannah's historic district, the event attracted almost 80 academic papers. Participants came from throughout the South, but also from New Jersey, California, England, Ireland, and other locales. One attendee remarked, "Rarely have I experienced such a well-organized and stimulating conference. In addition, the hosts were exceptionally friendly; the Center for Irish Studies personnel paid attention to every detail. Bravo!" There were two keynote addresses. On the first full day, Dean Smith introduced the founding Consul General of Ireland for the Southern United States, Hon. Paul Gleeson. The next day featured Seán Ó Sé, the legendary singer and ethnomusicologist, whose work from the late 1950s proved crucial in reviving much of Ireland's musical patrimony. Ó Sé fronted the instrumentalists that would go on to become the Chieftains; and last year Ireland honored him with its premier arts-and-humanities plaudit: Ard-Ollamh ("high professor"). Also appearing with Ó Sé was his academic biographer, Dr. Matthew Allen of Wheaton College in Massachusetts.

Recruitment for the Center's five-week summer program at the Waterford Institute of Technology in

southeast Ireland has been strong. Last year, the eight-credit-hour program received top student reviews, and a record 57 students will fly out of Atlanta on 23 June 2011, ready to take such courses as "Theater in Performance in Ireland," "Irish Christianity," and "Comparative Government: Irish Perspectives," to mention but three options. In late February, the Center organized the fifth annual concert in aid of its Eddie Ivie Scholarship for Study in Ireland, an endowed fund that supports two Georgia Southern students on the Waterford-Ireland Program each year. The headliner was Cathie Ryan, recently named "Irish-American Female Vocalist of the Decade, 2000-2010."

Further supporting students, the Center worked with two sibling units, the Center for Africana Studies and the Program in Women's and Gender Studies, to highlight exceptional research. The Research Showcase dedicated the month of March to Irish Studies. The undergraduate event attracted over 50 people, and we congratulate the selected speakers: Casey Bunch, Natasha Zomcik, and Kelly Corallo. A similarly sized audience was present at the graduate event, where Brian Butler (literature) and Eileen Emerson (education) shared their scholarly attainments.

## Upcoming CLASS Events

### May 1

#### **Music**

Senior Recital, 4:00 p.m.

Pops Concert GSU Symphony, 6:00 p.m.

### Until May 3rd

#### **Art**

Exhibition: Form & Content, Center for Art & Theatre

Exhibition: Juried Undergraduate, Center for Art & Theatre

### May 4

#### **Music**

Guitar Studio Recital, 7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

### May 5

#### **Music**

Chanel Noise IV, 7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

### May 6

#### **Music**

Symphonic Wind Ensemble & Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

Graduate Recital, 7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

[Complete Calendar of CLASS Events](#)

## Evening of the Arts

The College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences held its inaugural Evening of the Arts on Saturday, April 16. During this fundraiser for the arts, guests enjoyed tours of the Center for Art & Theatre art galleries, including the Georgia Artists Collection, a musical performance by the GSU Southern Chorale, and scenes from William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.



In appreciation for the contributions made by donors and supporters to the promotion and development of the arts, arts programs, and arts scholarships, the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences began a new tradition this year, conferring a prestigious acknowledgement of these contributions to the most generous members of the Statesboro and surrounding communities. From this year forward, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences will present the Patron of the Arts award to honor a member of the community for his or her commitment and support of the arts at Georgia Southern

University. Dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences, Michael Smith, presented the first Patron of the Arts award to Mrs. Betty Foy Sanders, whose contributions to the advancement of the arts in Georgia are extraordinary. As First Lady of Georgia during the distinguished term of her husband, Governor Carl Sanders, she has had a unique chance to share her passion for the arts. In 1965,



Mrs. Sanders developed the Georgia Council for the Arts, coinciding with the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts, then served seven years on the board. During this time, she advocated for the construction of several fine arts buildings and additions on campuses of the University System of Georgia-- including Georgia Southern's Foy Fine Arts Building, named for her father J. P. Foy.

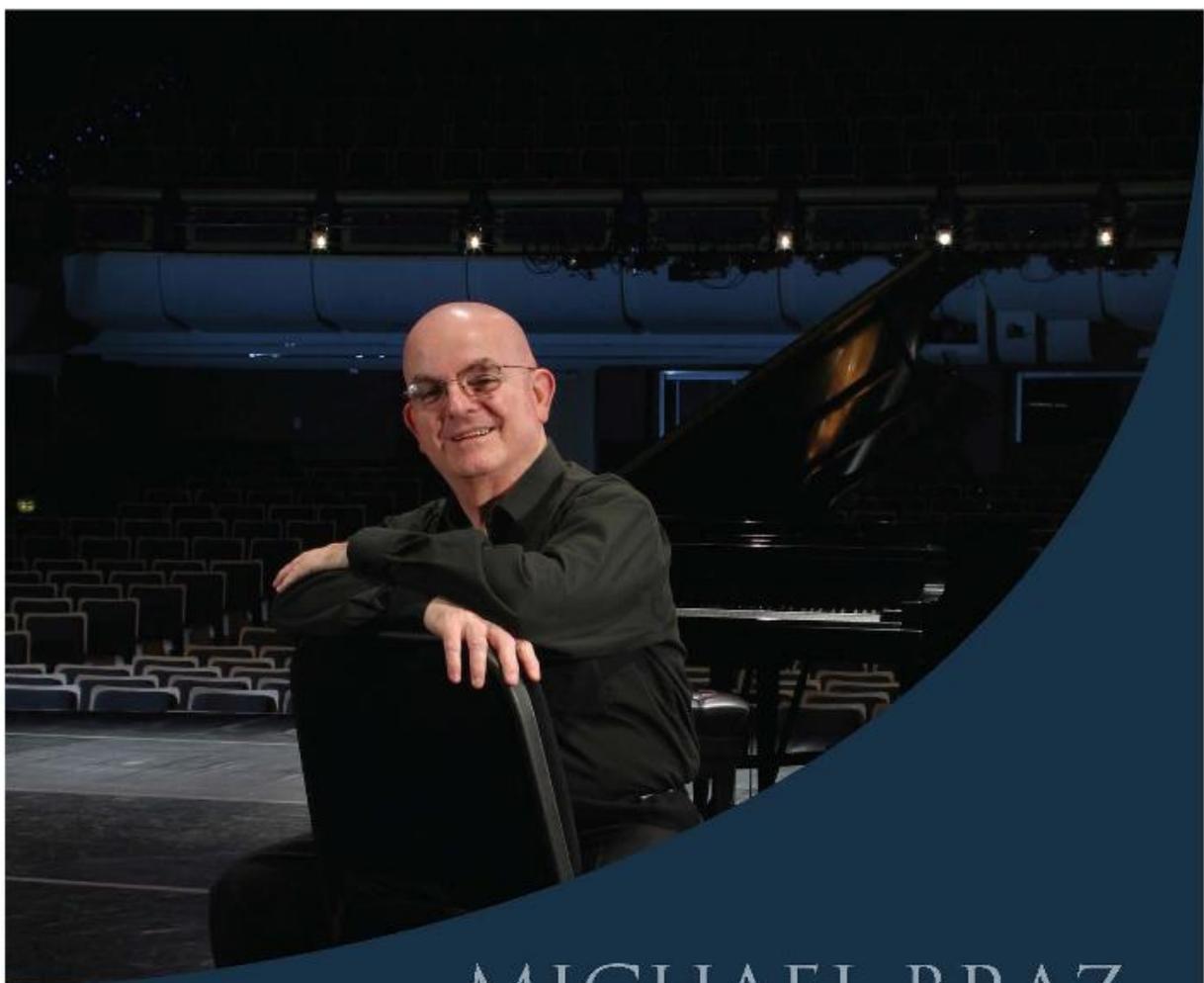
Curated by Betty Foy Sanders since 1967, The Betty Foy Sanders Georgia Artists Collection is an extensive permanent collection that resides in its own gallery here in the Center for Art & Theatre. The collection is the only one of its kind on a college campus in our state, and escalates in stature and legacy as Mrs. Sanders continues to curate artworks for inclusion by notable artists with a connection to the state of Georgia--whether the artist is native to the state, the artwork is created with materials indigenous to the state, or the imagery is about the state of Georgia.

An accomplished artist, Mrs. Sanders' paintings reflect her deep devotion to her home state of Georgia, and to its rich history and remarkable beauty. Georgia Southern proudly exhibits a selection of Mrs. Sanders' paintings representing

substantial works and periods from the artist's career and has assumed the honor of housing the archives of Betty Foy Sanders.

The Patron of the Arts award will from here forward be named the "Betty Foy Sanders Patron of the Arts award," and the College will honor Mrs. Sanders' support of the arts each year by presenting the award to a member of the community who exhibits her same passion and dedication to the arts.





MICHAEL BRAZ  
& FRIENDS  
*Farewell Performance*

Sunday, May 15 at 4 p.m. in the Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

*Parking behind the Russell Union building with shuttle service available*

A reception will follow the program.

Tickets are \$30 with Proceeds benefiting the Michael Braz Music Scholarship Fund.

For information and reservations call the Music Department at (912) 478-5396.

*For contributions please call the University Foundation at (912) 478-4483.*

*Limited Seating, Reservations Suggested*    [georgiasouthern.edu/music](http://georgiasouthern.edu/music)



GEORGIA SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY

## Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be nationally recognized for its superior and innovative educational experiences across the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. Our goal is to provide effective programs that are responsive to the needs of the region and to allow all members of the college—faculty, staff, and students—to serve together to enhance quality of life. If you would like to support CLASS in meeting these goals, please visit our [annual campaign website](#).

Find all the details about the [Eagle Nation on Parade](#) public art project on our [website](#). Contact Sue Bunning at [sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu) for more information.

## Facebook

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