The Georgia Southern Faculty Brass Quintet and Percussion ensemble was celebrated at its Aug. 3 performance at the 2012 Sigma Alpha Iota National Convention in Atlanta, receiving standing ovations after each of its three performances.

The ensemble, comprising professors Matthew Fallin, Ph.D.; Stephanie Furry, Ph.D.; Richard Mason, Ph.D.; Alice Schmid and Bill Schmid, Ph.D. of the Department of Music at Georgia Southern University and student David Purser, was selected to perform at the convention after participating in a national convention.

Liz Nordling, the outgoing national president of SAI, said of the ensemble’s selection: "When the committee heard your audition CD, we … couldn’t wait to hear you all in a live performance."

The ensemble performed three times during the convention: a musicale comprising compositions and arrangements written for the group by Bill Schmid and "Tempus Perfectus 2012," written by retired music department faculty member Michael Braz, Ph.D. During the convention, the Faculty Brass Quintet and Percussion ensemble also served as principal performers with the SAI Wind Ensemble, conducted by Braz.

“We were the only participants to receive two full pages of coverage in the convention’s program,” said Mason. “This was a huge presence for Georgia Southern in front of knowledgeable music delegates from all 50 states, as well as a few international delegates.”

“The ensemble was heralded throughout the week as having performed one of the most diverse and exciting programs the conventions have experienced in years,” Mason said.

Sigma Alpha Iota, an international fraternity for women in music, holds its national convention every three years.