

## CLASS Notes

October 31, 2011

Georgia Southern University

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# CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF  
LIBERAL ARTS &  
SOCIAL SCIENCES



October 31, 2011

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

Greetings!

As the holidays approach and the semester winds down, we begin to turn our attention toward 2012 and beyond. The new year holds many exciting things for CLASS, including the introduction of a graduate certificate program and our first Eagle Nation on Parade auction.

The Department of Writing and Linguistics has partnered with the College of Education to offer graduate certification for teaching English to speakers of other languages. This applied linguistics certificate will enable our graduate students to expand their job opportunities locally, nationally and abroad. The field of English as a secondary language is growing at a rate of 15 percent, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Services, and CLASS is proud to be a part of this collaboration for our students and those wishing to continue their education.

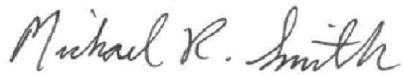
Eagle Nation on Parade is a public art project that salutes the University's traditions, celebrates the unity of campus and community, contributes to the economic vitality and quality of life of the Statesboro community and supports student scholarships and research initiatives. Six eagles, each hand-painted by a different artist, will be displayed, and three will be sold at the Eagle Nation on Parade auction on February 4. After the event, each eagle will be installed at its permanent home, either on campus or in Statesboro, where they always will be available for public viewing.

The February event is just the first of many; we plan to have a flock of 50 eagles by 2020. If you'd like more information about the project, please visit the Eagle Nation on Parade website at [eaglenationonparade.com](http://eaglenationonparade.com).

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences is pleased to welcome a new member to our team -- Ms. Andrea Bennett. Andrea is the new director of communication and outreach for CLASS, and you will be hearing much more from her in the weeks and months to come. Under her guidance, we hope to raise the visibility of the College, improve our communication and outreach efforts and stay in closer touch with our friends and alumni. You can reach Andrea at [abennet@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:abennet@georgiasouthern.edu) or 912-478-8597. Welcome aboard, Andrea!

Finally, a friendly reminder to CLASS alumni: We still want to hear about your honors, awards, promotions, and successes. Please use the [online alumni survey](#) form to send us your news, or send an email to [class@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:class@georgiasouthern.edu). Your success is important to us!

Warm Regards,



Michael R. Smith, Dean

## DEPARTMENT OF AFRICANA STUDIES

The Center for Africana Studies will represent South Africa and Sudan at the Southeast Model African Union simulation on November 10-12. The model is a classroom laboratory where students use their substantive and procedural knowledge of Africa and parliamentary procedures as diplomats representing different African countries.

The students will debate proposals and craft resolutions on important African issues, such as the development of a single African currency, promotion of free trade and access to clean water. Human rights violations, health concerns, refugees and internally displaced persons, children in armed conflict, piracy along Africa's coasts, censorship of the Internet and the media and promoting democracy will also be discussed, in addition to some of the sweeping changes happening on the continent.

Attendees of SEMAU will discuss the crisis of the changing and evolving political and economic landscape of Libya in light of the death of Moammar Quadafi, the nation's leader for the past 42 years. The student delegates in the Executive Council (the foreign ministers of the countries represented) will determine how the African Union could help create a democratic, stable Libya by laying the foundation to hold elections and maintain stability. The crisis will be introduced on the first day, escalated and then de-escalated throughout the simulation, requiring student delegates to think on their feet and resolve problems based on the research that they have conducted with their faculty advisors on these critical issues.

The following students have been selected to represent Georgia Southern University at the SEMAU conference: Dare Laditan, Alexis Davis, Georga Aigbe, Erecka Washington, Ivory Watts, Keenos Davis, Lauren Jackson, Berenice Zundi, Nadia Chebli, Lauren Jackson, Femi Odubanjo, John Nwosu, Nicole Williams, Jennifer Umanah, Pamela Tom-Jack and Ijele Ochie. The faculty advisors are professors Saba Jallow and Cathy Skidmore-Hess. The students have already submitted their resolutions on the issues that will be debated in their respective committee assignments.

## Other CLASS News

### **Students to participate in 1906 Gala**

Two students, Michael Palmese and Lauren Claybaugh, were recommended by CLASS and chosen to attend this year's 1906 Gala in November. Michael and Lauren will be featured on banners displayed at the prestigious event.

### **Undergraduate research presented, awarded at annual CURIO symposium**

Four students received the Award for Excellence in Scholarship and five received CLASS Undergraduate Research and Creativity Grants at the CURIO (CLASS Undergraduate Research and Intellectual Opportunities) symposium.

The Excellence Award winners were Jasmine Akinsipe for "Examining the Relationship Between Perceptions of Parental Dispositions and Emotional and Behavioral Difficulties of College Students" with psychology professor Jeff Klibert; Amy Bryan for "Rare Earth Elements in the Ceramic Arts" with art professor Jane Pleak; Alyssa Noel for "Naga: An Application for Real-Time Multimedia Creation" with music professor John Thompson; and Shay Meredith for "Thus

Saith the Lord: The Theological Development and Controversies of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints."

The Research and Creativity Grants were awarded to Duane Borba for "Bridges: An Exploration of Music" with music professor John Thompson; Garrett Litton for "A Study of 16th- and 17th-Century Paleography in the Political Documents of Henry VII through James I of England at the National Archives" with history professor Robert Batchelor; Kristen Strater for "Sister, Speak (Out!): The Rise of African American Women in Information Technology Studies" with writing and linguistics professor Janice Walker; Tie'rra Thompson for "Invisible Chains: The Educational Narratives of African American Mothers in Southeast Georgia" with sociology and anthropology professor April Schueths; and Alyssa Noel for "Naga: An Application for Real-Time Multimedia Creation" with music professor John Thompson.

## Department News

### Foreign Languages

Professor of French Dr. David Seaman's English translation of Caterina Davinio's Italian poem "Novoli" was published in *Atlanta Review*.

### Writing & Linguistics

*The Georgia Peace Officer*, a quarterly publication of the Peace Officers Association of Georgia with a circulation of about 12,000, chose several students to produce its content.

Dr. Margaret Sullivan received the Rev. Walter J. Ong, S.J. Award from her alma mater, Saint Louis University. Named in honor of the renowned literary scholar, the award recognizes scholarly achievement and promise.

The Write Place event was held in conjunction with the Averitt Center for the Arts, Statesboro Magazine and the Statesboro Convention and Visitors Bureau. Six local authors, including CLASS faculty members Eric Nelson, Dr. Lori Amy and Will McIntosh, read excerpts of their books at the Emma Kelly Theatre to 175 attendees.

One hundred seventy students gathered outside Lakeside Cafe and wrote on a topic of their choice or prompts supplied by faculty at Pizza for Prose, a celebration of the National Day on Writing. Their submissions were then hung between trees while the students enjoyed a slice of pizza.

### Art

Ceramicists from Club Mud set out to raise money for the Statesboro Food Bank - and they did just that. The Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art raised \$3,133 in just three hours during the Empty Bowl Project Chili Bowl Sale. Each bowl purchased during the event provided 70 bowls of food for the charity.

Studio Art student Tiffany Simmons received a \$5,000 scholarship from Fund for Education Abroad to pursue her study abroad goals in Japan. Simmons will be spend her academic year at Nagoya University of Foreign Studies in Japan.

### Communication Arts

Alumni Pratt Farmer visited the campus and the studios of radio station WVGS 91.9 The Buzz, which he helped found as a student. Farmer graduated from Georgia Southern College in 1976 and now manages the marketing and corporate communications department for Cooper Carry, an international architectural design firm.

More than 1,200 theatre enthusiasts from throughout Georgia flocked to Georgia Southern for three days of nonstop theatre at the Georgia Theatre Conference. Eighteen high schools competed in the Southeastern Theatre Conference Competition and 12 in the Georgia High School Association Competition. Three community theatres performed at the Averitt Center for the Arts and three children's companies performed at local elementary schools. Highlights of the week included a blues concert by Guy Davis and the induction of Ossie Davis to the Georgia Theatre Hall of Fame, which featured a proclamation by Gov. Nathan Deal read by Sen. Jack Hill.

### History

Dr. Kathleen M. Comerford was elected a discipline representative for the Renaissance Society of America. Discipline representatives, listed as members of the editorial advisory board of *Renaissance Quarterly*, are on the RSA Council and help organize the panels at the society's annual meeting.

Dr. Jonathan Bryant was named the principle investigator for a federal Improving Teach Quality Highter Education Grant. This award supports "From Place to People: An Inquiry Based Teacher Training in Social Studies at the Georgia Southern Botanical Garden," which brings regional teachers to GSU's Botanical Garden to learn how it can be used as a

resource for their social studies classes. The training includes history content, materials and support for the teachers and will continue through Feb. 2012.

Dr. Johnathan O'Neill presented "Originalism and the Rule of Law Ideal" at Marshall University in Huntington, W.V., as part of its annual Amicus Curiae lecture series.

Dr. Brian Kelly, a professor at Queens University Belfast in Northern Ireland, presented "How Race Outlived Slavery: Emancipation and Resistance in the Post-Civil War South." Kelly is a renowned historian who specializes in race- and class-relations in the post-Civil War South and the director of the After Slavery Project, an international research collaboration and a resource for educators studying African American and Southern Labor history.

### Psychology

The Fourth Friday Lecture Series began with a presentation by Emily Eisenhart Moore, the director of Statesboro's Center for Addiction Recovery. Moore's talk, "Stigma as a public health problem: Recovery from alcoholism and addiction in the rural South," examined the power of social perceptions as a barrier to recovery from alcoholism and addiction.

### Irish Studies

Historian Freida Kelly spoke about Kilmainham Gaol, a prison-turned-museum in Dublin, and Thomas Addis Emmet, who emigrated to the U.S. after his brother was executed for spearheading an 1803 Dublin insurrection against British colonial rule in Ireland.

### Literature & Philosophy

*Caleb's Wars*, a coming-of-age novel by Dr. David Dudley, was published. The book tells the story of Caleb, an African-American teen during World War II who must overcome internal debates, conflict with his father and the struggles of civil rights as he matures.

### Sociology & Anthropology

Amanda Morrow was named the recipient of the 2011-2012 Cultural Heritage Scholarship.

## Alumni News

### Submitted news

**Jennifer Maddox Parks '07** is a reporter for *The Albany Herald*. She recently recieved the first place award for Deadline Reporting in Class AAA from the Georgia Press Association. She resides in Albany, Ga.

**Stephanie Arends Neal '07** is the Graphic Design Art Director and Administrative Specialist for the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art at Georgia Southern University. She resides in Statesboro.

## The 2011 Great Minds Lecture Series

### Reed Smith, Professor of Communication Arts

#### "Historic Episodes in Georgia Journalism"

Thursday, November 10 at 7 p.m.

Averitt Center for the Arts, Multi-Purpose Studio

This lecture will provide three different stories about Georgia journalism as it evolved during the 20th Century. One story is from 1904 and concerns the role newspapers played in the lynching era in the South (including the Statesboro incident); the second comes from the World War II era, and considers a controversy between state politics and Georgia Tech's commercial radio station in Atlanta. The third story profiles two men, one in TV, the other in newspapers, and how they had an impact on not just reflecting, but establishing Savannah's unique personality.

# Upcoming CLASS Events

## **Communication Arts**

November 3-16

Theatre: *Big Love* by Charles Mee in rotating repertory with *The Taming of the Shrew* by William Shakespeare. Both performances will be held in the Black Box Theatre in the Center for Art and Theatre. More information [here](#).

## **Foreign Languages**

November 7-14

French Week: Campus events are free and open to the public and include "My Brother's War," a photography exhibition; the French Folk Music Revival; "Changing Approaches to Music and Drama in French Opera, 1560 to Present," a lecture; "Samuel Beckett and the Modern Mind," a lecture and "Un Secret," a French film. Times and locations vary. More information [here](#).

## **Music**

November 7

Arnold Rawls, tenor, and Richard Mercier, piano

7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

November 10

University Singers

7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

November 11

Jazz Band

7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

November 13

Linda Cionitti and friends

3:00 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

November 29

Larisa Elisha, violin, Steven Elisha, cello, and Richard Mercier, piano

7:30 p.m.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall

## **Psychology**

November 15

Psychology Research Colloquium

3:30 p.m.

Carrol Building

## **Writing & Linguistics**

November 8  
Marianne Boruch, poet  
7:00 p.m.  
IT Building, room 1005

### Lectures

November 10  
Great Minds Lecture Series: Dr. Reed Smith  
7:00 p.m.  
Averitt Center for the Arts

[Complete Calendar of CLASS Events](#)

## 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, social sciences, and Arts. Our goal is to provide outstanding 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

Stay connected by following our [CLASS Facebook page](#).

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences ♦ Georgia Southern University  
P.O. Box 8142 ♦ Statesboro, Georgia 30460 ♦ 912-478-2527 ♦  
<http://class.georgiasouthern.edu>

