

CLASS Notes

January 31, 2013

Georgia Southern University

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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "CLASS Notes" (2013). *CLASS Notes*. 39.
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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



January 31, 2013

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

Greetings!

It's that time of year again! Though the weather outside is chilly - well, at least it's chilly some days - we in CLASS are preparing for the return of spring and our premiere annual gala, Evening of the Arts. Now in its third year, Evening of the Arts invites the community to the University's Center for Art and Theatre for a night of select student showcases. We are excited to announce that this year's gala is March 15 at 7 p.m. and that it will include several new features, all of which we know you will enjoy.

Evening of the Arts is about our students and our community and connecting the two. We have already received outstanding community support: The Flowergirl Fresh Flowers is donating our centerpieces for the evening, Dr. Richard Marz has donated several bottles of wine, and Eagle Catering is on board again as our dining sponsor. Additional supporters include East Georgia Regional Medical Center, Rose Mae Bogan Millikan, and Mark Anderson. We have several exciting events planned for the gala, including a wet paint art auction and all kinds of performances: opera, jazz, brass, guitar, and one-act plays!

Each year at Evening of the Arts, the College announces the Betty Foy Sanders Patron of the Arts, a community member who best demonstrates the dedication required to make Fine Arts programming successful. In 2011, former first lady of Georgia Mrs. Betty Foy Sanders received the inaugural Patron of the Arts award, which was thereafter her namesake. Last year, alumna Rose Mae Bogan Millikan was recognized for her ongoing contributions to the College and the Arts, and this year we are pleased to honor artist and former faculty member Roxie Remley. Roxie has been a constant supporter of art, music, and theater programs, and everyone in the College adores her. We are so excited to add her name to our list of Patrons and cannot wait to honor her at Evening of the Arts.

As with all of our events, proceeds from [Evening of the Arts](#) directly benefit students, contributing to scholarships in art, music, and theater. Seating for the gala is limited, so please contact [Andrea Bennett](#) and let her know that you plan to attend. Whether you've celebrated with us before or will be joining us for the first time, we would love to have you.

Please keep the College informed of your own life events (honors, awards, promotions, and successes) through the [online alumni survey](#) or by sending an email to class@georgiasouthern.edu.

With warmest regards,

Curtis E. Ricker, interim dean

Institute for Public and Nonprofit Studies

On July 1, 2012, the Institute for Public and Nonprofit Studies was established with a mission to serve as the focal point for scholarship, teaching, and professional service in the field of Public Administration at Georgia Southern University, throughout southeast Georgia, and beyond. Similar to an academic department, the IPNS is comprised of a dedicated core faculty of six who offer courses in public and nonprofit management and conduct research in their respective areas of expertise. The IPNS faculty are productive teacher-scholars who are actively engaged in and strongly committed to the public service profession.

The Institute is home to the nationally accredited and nationally ranked master of public administration (MPA) program and the online graduate certificate in public and nonprofit management, and the Institute hopes to expand its course offerings in Fall 2013 with an undergraduate minor in public administration.

The MPA program is one of the largest graduate programs in CLASS and one of the few graduate programs at Georgia Southern to hold a national ranking - the University's MPA program was recently ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the country's best graduate programs in public affairs. Since 1990, the MPA program has been continuously accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA). NASPAA is widely considered the leading accrediting body for programs in public administration, public policy, and public affairs in the world, and there are currently fewer than 300 programs in the United States with this accreditation. In 2011, the MPA program gained membership in the National Academic Centers Council (NACC), which is comprised of academic programs and institutions committed to furthering research and education in philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.

The online certificate in public and nonprofit management is intended for in-service career professionals in public and nonprofit management who have an interest in furthering their managerial acumen through outstanding web-based instruction. The five-course sequence integrates public administration theory with practice, providing practical, real world knowledge and experience. The entire curriculum is offered completely online and was developed with an eye toward meeting the needs of busy professionals. Additionally, those completing the certificate may elect to apply the credits earned toward completion of the MPA degree.

Georgia Southern alumni with degrees in Public Administration have gone on to successful careers in local, state, and federal government, the nonprofit arena, and the private sector, with others finding success in doctoral studies or law school.

Please email mpa@georgiasouthern.edu if you are interested in learning more about the Institute and its degree offerings or serving as a member of the MPA advisory board.

At the Front of the CLASS

My name is Tiara McClain, and I am a Masters of Public Administration candidate at Georgia Southern University. Until two years ago, when I took time to reflect on my past and the career choices, I did not realize I had an interest in public service.

Both of my parents were in the United States Air Force, and after they retired, my mother became a registered nurse and my father a civil servant for the Department of the Army. I received my bachelor's degree in music from Elon University with the intention of becoming a music therapist, and after contemplating careers in performance, sociology, and accounting, I realized these disciplines were all too specific and concentrated for me. It wasn't until a friend, who was in the MPA program at the time, explained her studies and what the degree was about that I realized an MPA the right degree for me.



Tiara McClain

An internship is required for my master's degree, and I chose to intern with Exempt Organizations of the Internal Revenue Service in Washington D.C. in summer 2012. I stayed with one of my mother's closest friends in Haymarket, Va., and made the daily commute on the Virginia Railway Express to and from D.C. During my internship, I was given the opportunity to take the lead on several projects and work not only with my coworkers and other interns but also with other employees across different sections of the department. I went to weekly, sometimes daily, meetings and was even confused for a full-time employee instead of an intern because of how active I was with the organization. I was given multiple opportunities to meet with the director of the EO, who allowed me to sit in on her staff meetings and speak with other employees about their careers. After two weeks on the job, my supervisor gave me control of a key program in the organization: workshops for small and medium-sized 501(c)(3) organizations.

These daylong workshops are hosted by colleges and universities and presented by IRS Exempt Organizations' specialists. Nonprofits must register with the IRS to gain their tax-exempt status, and many nonprofits lose their tax exempt status because they don't know how to maintain it or don't know that certain activities can jeopardize their status. The purpose of these workshops is to help nonprofit leaders learn what they must do to keep and maintain their tax exempt status and comply with the tax obligations of the IRS. I attended two of the workshops and saw how beneficial these workshops are to nonprofits. The specialists used "plain English" when explaining the necessary information, and they were always willing to answer any questions from participants. During my 11-week internship, I was able to collaborate with 20 colleges and universities for a total of 24 workshops with 2,000-3,000 participants each. My internship also helped the IPNS foster a relationship with the EO, which will present a nonprofit workshop on campus in the spring.

Studying in the Institute for Public and Nonprofit Studies has enabled me to pursue new and exciting opportunities. Professors such as Dr. Trenton Davis and Dr. Kevin Ward are always informing us about new opportunities and encouraging us to take advantage of any opportunities we come across. The IPNS helps us develop not only into future practitioners but into "forever" students, as well. Public Administration is a field that is constantly evolving, and we have to be open to changes and willing to learn new techniques, methods, and theories to better lead our future organizations. Because of this, our professors always generate discussions in class and encourage us to think critically about our decisions and actions as future managers and leaders.

As I prepare to graduate on May 10, 2013, I leave knowing I've been prepared by an excellent faculty and given a solid foundation and education at the IPNS.

Department News

Communication Arts

Sophomore public relations major Summer Cunningham's audition debuted on *American Idol* on Jan. 23. Summer has already completed at least one *American Idol* audition in Hollywood but cannot say how successful her time was in California.

Music

The Georgia Southern Chorale presented the final concert of the Sacred Sound Sacred Space series at Woodlawn United Methodist Church in Augusta, Ga., on Jan. 12. The concert was a wonderful opportunity to perform for alumni, Chorale students' families, and prospective students. After the concert, the Chorale enjoyed a family-style Italian dinner at Buca di Bepo to begin the countdown to their tour of Italy and performance at the Vatican this summer. The Chorale also served in worship at WUMC on Jan. 13 and was selected to perform on the Prism concert at the annual Georgia Music Educators' in Service Conference in Savannah on Jan. 24. Southern Chorale will hold a rummage sale and raffle at Pittman Park United Methodist Church in Statesboro on Feb. 2 to continue to raise funds for its summer trip to Europe.



Southern Chorale
RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, Feb. 2
8 a.m. - noon

Pittman Park United Methodist Church
(1102 Fair Road)

DONATE
New, gently used items (through Jan. 31)
Sarah Poole: sarahpoole29@gmail.com

CLASS

GEORGIA SOUTHERN

Will Sing
4
AIRFARE

Graduate students Maggie Alley, Brian Dyson, Kellye Watts, and Megan Moore - all majoring in music education - presented research at the GMEA conference in January. Dr. Laura Stambaugh also presented "An Examination of a MIDI Wind Controller for Use in Instrumental Research" at the conference.

Sigma Alpha Iota had the highest GPA in the United Greek Council and ranked third out of 38 sororities and fraternities at Georgia Southern in Fall 2012.

Clarinet Professor Dr. Linda Cionitti and students Caitlin Long, Corey White, and Jonathan Rud attended the Oklahoma State University Single Reed Summit in January. Cionitti performed a solo assisted by her students and played in a clarinet choir. Corey performed in a master class coached by Maurita Mead of the

University of Iowa, while Caitlin performed a master class coached by Elsa Ludewig-Verderhr, and Cionitti coached a student from North Texas State University.

Dr. Shannon Jeffreys, the director of choral activities, conducted the Georgia Music Educators Association's District 6 Women's Honor Choir in Peachtree City, Ga., on Jan. 19. Jeffreys will adjudicate the Lander University Choral Festival in Greenwood, S.C., on Feb. 1 and will serve as the clinician for the District 1 GMEA Women's Honor Choir at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah.

Dr. Carolyn J. Bryan and her longtime duo partner Dr. George Weremchuk will perform the world premiere of *Orlando Lakes* for soprano and alto saxophones at the North American Saxophone Alliance Region 6 Conference at the University of Central Florida on March 2. UCF Composer in Residence Christopher Marshall wrote the piece for Weremchuk.

Assistant Professor Dr. Stephanie Furry was the featured soloist with the Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra on Jan. 14. Furry performed Mozart's *Second Concerto for Horn* with the orchestra in a concert of music by the Classical masters, Haydn and Mozart.

Professor Martin Gendelman's *Shapes of the Wind* for alto flute and vibraphone will be performed at the Society of Composer's National Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on Feb. 15.

Art

Lecturer Julia Fischer began teaching a new course at Georgia Southern this spring. "Art and Crime" examines art theft, lotting vandalism, illegal smuggling, and the underground art market.

Professor Derek Larson was featured in the Pulse: Art and Technology Festival at the Telfair Museum in Savannah. On display until Feb. 5, Larson's mixed-media and motorized works, along with his video and animated GIFs, were highlighted in his show *Leveling the Genres*, which was first exhibited at the Vox Populi Gallery in Philadelphia in 2012.

History

Student Brittany Partridge's article, "1989 Tiananmen Incident and U.S.-China Relations," was published by the *Armstrong Undergraduate Journal of History* in January. Brittany is an advisee of Professor Juanjuan Peng.

Student Lindsay Hall, an advisee of Professor Erica Hall, recently completed a semester-long internship working for Congressman David Scott in Washington, D.C.

Professor Jonathan Bryant, working with the Georgia Southern University Garden of the Coastal Plain, was awarded a federal Title II Teacher Quality Service Grant for \$30,850. The money will be used to continue the Places to People program, which began with a previous Title II grant for \$26,000. The teacher workshops these grants provide utilize the Garden as a resource for the social, cultural, and environmental history of the region and support social studies instruction through student field trips to the Garden.

Professor William Allison presented "Bombing North Vietnam: Coercion, Airpower, and Grand Strategy in the Vietnam War" at the USAF Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB on Jan. 25.

Professor Eric Hall's book, *Arthur Ashe: Tennis and Justice in the Civil Rights Era*, has been accepted for publication in 2014 by Johns Hopkins University Press. Hall's article "Co-Learners and Core: Education Reform at Saint Joseph's College" is forthcoming in the *International Social Science Review*.

Literature and Philosophy

Professor Danielle Layne, Ph.D., secured funding for the Department's second Undergraduate Philosophy Conference. The March 20 event addresses the theme of "Pop Culture and Philosophy" and features keynote speaker Stephen Arp, Ph.D. Layne presented "Philosophical Prayer in Proclus" at the 1600th anniversary of Proclus' birthday in Istanbul, Turkey, on Dec. 12 and "The Good Dialogue Form: Neoplatonic Hermeneutics" at the American Philological Association in Seattle on Jan. 6. She published a

24-page dictionary entry on Socrates for the prestigious *Dictionnaire des philosophes antiques*.

Professor Nicole Karapangiotis, Ph.D., had an article, "Cyber Forms, Worshipable Forms: Hindu Devotional Viewpoints on the Ontology of Cyber-Gods and Goddesses," accepted for publication by *Hindu Studies*, the biggest journal in the field of Hinduism.

Writing and Linguistics

Associate Professor Kathy Albertson, Ph.D., and Sally Brown, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the College of Education, have received word that their proposal "Building Literacy through the Common Core, Conflict Resolution and Empowerment" has been accepted for the No Child Left Behind Title II Part A Higher Education Improving Teacher Quality Grant. Albertson and Assistant Professor Ellen Hendrix, Ph.D., co-presented at the 11th annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities. Their cross-disciplinary panel, "Internationalizing a Rural South College Campus: When Study Abroad Happens at Home," featured Kozue Kobayashi, a graduate student in Georgia Southern's College of Public Health and graduate assistant in the University's Center for International Studies.

Assistant Professor Jared Sexton has published his first collection of stories, *An End to All Things*, with Atticus Books.

Visiting Instructor Dayna Goldstein has been asked to join the Educational Board of the *FORUM*, hosted by the National Council of Teachers of English/Conference on College Composition and Communication. *FORUM: Issues about Part-Time and Contingent Faculty* is a publication on contingent, adjunct, and part-time faculty issues in college composition and communication.

Psychology

Professor Amy Hackney, Ph.D., and her students Victoria Allen, John LeMay, Grady Rose, and Rachael Rosenberg presented four posters, papers, and "data blitz" projects on aspects of social psychology and the law at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology meeting in New Orleans on Jan. 19.

Professor Brad Sturz, Ph.D., and coauthors published "Geometric cues, reference frames, and the equivalence of experience-aligned and novel-aligned views in human spatial memory" in *Cognition*.

Professors Janie Wilson, Ph.D., and Rebecca Ryan, Ph.D., published "Professor-Student Rapport Scale: Six items predict student outcomes" in *Teaching of Psychology*.

Professor Michael Neilsen, Ph.D., presented an invited address, "Religion in America: Islam and Mormonism," at the University of Istanbul, Turkey, on Dec. 27.

The Department welcomes Monica Williams, Ph.D., Lee Ann Scott, Ph.D., and Preston Elder to its ranks for the semester. This is a "return home" for Scott, who studied under Georgelle Thomas, Ph.D, the namesake of the psychology graduate students' scholarship.

Foreign Languages

Professor Olga Amarie, Ph.D., published an article, "Le connexionnisme ou le fonctionnement de l'esprit humain dans *Les Amnésiques n'ont rien vécu d'inoubliable* d'Hervé Le Tellier," in a collection of essays prepared by Carole Bisenius-Penin and André Petitjean entitled *50 ans d'Oulipo: de la contrainte à l'œuvre*. The essays appeared in *La Licorne*, which is published by Presses universitaires Rennes. Amarie was also recently elected by her national peers to serve as Southeast Vice President of Pi Delta Phi, the national French honor society for students.

Xinbo Li, Ph.D., will join the Department in Fall 2013 as a lecturer of Chinese.

Center for Americana Studies

Professor Larry Griffin, Ph.D., was appointed the Fulbright Distinguished Research Chair of the Roosevelt Study Center in Middleburg, The Netherlands, for the Fall 2013 semester.

Alumni News

Jilian Pashke participated in the American Traditions Competition in Pooler, Ga., in January. Currently, Pashke is auditioning for several opera programs and works at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptists in Savannah as a soloist.

Linda M. Rhodes ('97) has worked for Georgia Southern's School of Technology, the Georgia Institute of Technology's GTREP program, and the University of Georgia's College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Southeast District Cooperative Extension since graduation. She currently resides in Statesboro and has four grandchildren.

Upcoming CLASS Events

CLASS Alumni Connection Lecture Series

Feb. 26

The College welcomes back alumnus Grant Dudley, who obtained a B.S. in broadcasting in 1999 and has gone on to work for CNN, Food Network, and HGTV. Students and the public are invited to hear how Dudley's liberal arts degree has helped him along the way.

7 p.m.; Carol A. Carter Recital Hall; 912-478-8597

Great Minds Lecture Series

Feb. 22

Dr. Eric Hall of the Department of History presents "Arthur Ashe: Sports and Justice in the Civil Rights Era"

Noon; Statesboro Holiday Inn; \$8 for lunch buffet, plus tax and gratuity; 912-478-8597

Evening of the Arts

March 15

Third annual gala celebrates art, music, and theatre students in the College. Events for the night include a wet paint auction, live music and theatre performances, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

7 p.m.; Center for Art and Theatre; \$75; 912-478-8597

Communication Arts

Feb. 27 - March 9

Death of a Salesman: In 1949, playwright Arthur Miller redefined the tragic hero in the person of Willy Loman, the aging, failing salesman who makes his living on a smile and shoeshine.

7:30 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday; \$5 students, \$10 general admission; Black Box Theatre at the Center for Art and Theatre; 912-478-5379

Art

Now - Feb. 24

Karen Ann Myers: Intimate Patterns. Gallery exhibition includes an Artist Talk on Thursday, Feb. 21, at 5 p.m. in the Arts Building, Room 2016, with a Reception immediately after.

Contemporary Gallery in the Center for Art and Theatre; 912-478-2787

Michael Velliquette: Power Seeker

University Gallery in the Center for Art and Theatre; 912-478-2787

Music

Feb. 2

Southern Chorale Rummage Sale and Raffle

8 a.m. - noon; Pittman Park United Methodist Church; 912-478-5396

Feb. 3

Faculty Recital: Steven Elisha, cello

3 p.m.; Carol A. Carter Recital Hall; 912-478-5396

Feb. 14

Georgia Southern Sinfonietta

7:30 p.m.; Carol A. Carter Recital Hall; 912-478-5396

Feb. 15

Georgia Southern Symphonic Wind Ensemble

7:30 p.m.; Performing Arts Center; 912-478-5396

Feb. 22

Georgia Southern Jazz Band

7:30 p.m.; Performing Arts Center; 912-478-5396

Feb. 24

Georgia Southern Wind Symphony

3 p.m.; Performing Arts Center; 912-478-5396

Writing and Linguistics

Feb. 8

Student Success in Writing Conference

Coastal Georgia Center, Savannah; 912-478-0141

[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. Contact Sue Bunning at sbunning@georgiasouthern.edu for more information.



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