

CLASS Notes

November 30, 2012

Georgia Southern University

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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



November 30, 2012

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

Greetings!

It's hard to believe that another semester has already come and gone. This semester was marked by several firsts for the College: It was the inaugural semester for our Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology and our Institute of Public and Nonprofit Studies and my first semester as interim dean. We also welcomed several new faculty members this semester, including Jeff Schmuki in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art and Camille Broadway in the Department of Communication Arts, both of whom are highlighted in the Departmental News below.

CLASS will continue its growth well into the new year. We have more than 20 faculty searches currently under way, positions that will enable students of Georgia Southern to learn about interesting and relevant topics such as Arabic, Chinese, the history of Latinos in the U.S. and Caribbean, and social services. There are positions open in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology and the Institute of Public and Nonprofit Studies, providing our newest entities the chance to continue to mature and expand their course offerings.

Through these changes, the College's mission to provide students of Georgia Southern with the education to achieve academic excellence, develop their analytical skills, enhance their creativity, and embrace their responsibilities as citizens of their communities, their nations, and the world will be strengthened, and we're excited to be able to tweak some of our existing programs to facilitate our growth and mission. The next edition of *CLASS Notes* will feature a column by a student scholarship recipient in addition to the departmental highlights. The student piece will be a recurring section of the monthly newsletter and will extend to the biannual *CLASS Connect* alumni magazine. We will also continue with our tradition of hosting the Evening of the Arts in March, but the 2013 celebration will include several new elements that are sure to be a lot of fun for attendees, so stay tuned as we unveil the surprises!

These are just a few of the advancements that CLASS has planned, and we're always happy to tell you more. We also eagerly anticipate your news each month, so please let us know about the events (honors, awards, promotions, and successes) of your life through the [online alumni survey](#) or sending an email to class@georgiasouthern.edu.

With warmest regards and best wishes for a great holiday season,



Curtis E. Ricker, interim dean

Center for Irish Studies

Georgia Southern and Emory are the only Georgia universities to boast centers dedicated to Irish Studies, a growing discipline nationally. We join a distinguished group that includes universities such as Boston College, New York University, and the University of Notre Dame.

Georgia Southern's Center's emphasis on undergraduate research and experiential learning helped facilitate the students' "From Protest to Peace," an exhibit on display at the Georgia Southern Museum. With impressive skill, the students probed the Irish Troubles and their solutions by examining the 100-year-old Northern Irish tradition of political mural-making. Two lectures accompany the exhibition's University showing: Peggy Lindsay of the Department of Writing and Linguistics discussed representative literary responses to the Troubles on Nov. 28, and Valerie Aranda, a noted muralist and scholar of murals from Georgia College, will explore the art form's use globally on Jan. 16 at 7 p.m. In the spring, the exhibition will travel to the University of Illinois for display there.

Several faculty members of Georgia Southern's Irish Studies Center participated in the 2012 International Conference of the American Conference for Irish Studies hosted by Tulane University in New Orleans over St. Patrick's Day weekend. While there, faculty members interacted with nearly 400 scholars and joined forces with professors from Emory and Kennesaw State universities to organize the 2013 ACIS Southern Regional Conference in Decatur, Ga., on Feb. 28 - March 2. The gathering will feature keynote speaker Dr. Ronald Schuchard, a celebrated interpreter of poetry by Irish Nobel laureates William Butler Yeats and Seamus Heaney. In recognition of the Center's work and achievements in Irish Studies, Schuchard has forged an agreement to allow Georgia Southern students studying Irish literature full access to the Irish collections at Emory's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Books Library. Several undergraduate and graduate students have taken advantage of this opportunity, which has significantly enhanced their work.

Bringing world-class opportunities to Georgia Southern students has long been one of the Center's core practices. In April, the Center welcomed Keith Farrell, a renowned director of Irish historical documentaries. Farrell presented on his company's multiple award-winning documentary about Ireland's 1641 Rebellion and Oliver Cromwell's subsequent military intervention - the effects of which resonate today. The lecture complemented spring courses offered by the Center on the history of Early Modern and Enlightenment Ireland and the treatment of invasion and warfare in Irish literature. Farrell's presentation in the University's Williams Center was standing-room only, and his workshop on making and marketing historical documentaries was also well attended. Spring 2013 will see another prominent person in Irish Studies on Georgia Southern's campus when the Center presents Dr. Christine Kinealy, arguably the premier living scholar on Ireland's Great Famine of the 1840s, on Tuesday, April 2, at 7 p.m. Kinealy's lecture will draw from her most recent book and will focus on Daniel O'Connell, the dominant Irish statesman during the first half of the 19th Century, and his leadership in the campaign to emancipate Southern slaves and his mentorship of Frederick Douglass.

Internationalization and the ability to function cross-culturally rank near the top of Georgia Southern's strategic goals for its students, and the Center continues to make headway in these areas. The Center is the originator of a top-ranked study abroad program that brings 60 students to the doctoral research Waterford Institute of Technology in southern Ireland each summer. During the five-week experience, students benefit from low student-teacher ratios, classroom modules, and participative-learning opportunities at diverse sites including the Rock of Cashel - southern Ireland's politico-religious center during the Middle Ages - and Kilmainham Gaol - the

Dublin prison where the 1916 rebel leaders were executed. This year the Center debuted two Ireland-based summer research fellowships, one each for a faculty member and graduate student. Dr. Robert Batchelor of the Department of History investigated the role of and interconnections between private libraries during the 18th Century, a topic also relevant to Graduate Fellow Shay Meredith, a history and Irish Studies student and the second-place overall winner at the University's College of Graduate Studies' 2012 research symposium.

The Center could continue to offer examples of its energy and productivity - from "Irish-American History since 1750," Dr. James Woods' new course this semester, to Dr. Howard Keeley's keynote address at the John F. Kennedy Summer School in New Ross, Ireland, in September, to student successes in matriculating into highly respected advanced-degree programs. However, in this season of Thanksgiving, it closes by offering you an Irish blessing: "May joy and peace surround you, and contentment latch your door."

Department News

Music

Sophomore music education major Adam Youngman was selected among three students nationwide to conduct the Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps, a World Class corps based in Rockford, Ill. Adam has trained this semester under Associate Director of Bands Dr. Colin McKenzie and will represent Georgia Southern on a national level through his work with the Phantom Regiment.

Drs. Steven and Larisa Elisha, the Elaris Duo, performed during the Georgia Southern Faculty Showcase on Sept. 13 and a piano trio program with Dr. Richard Mercier in the Performance Series at Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville on Sept. 17. The Duo was also invited to perform and teach at the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy on Oct. 19 and presented "Principles of Music Composing: Links between Music and Visual Arts" at the 12th International Music Theory Conference on Oct. 16-19 in Lithuania. Steven Elisha also performed solo cello programs at Gentilly Gardens in Statesboro as part of a Georgia Southern outreach initiative and a faculty recital in the Carol A. Carter Recital Hall.

The Georgia Southern Magnolia String Quartet, directed by Dr. Larisa Elisha, was recently selected to represent the state in the Regional Music Teachers National Association Competition in the Chamber Music category in January. This is the second year in a row that the quartet will represent Georgia and the University at the MTNA Regionals. The quartet was also invited to perform during the Winners' Recital on Nov. 1 at Young Harris University.

The Georgia Southern University Mellow Cello Fellowship, directed by Dr. Steven Elisha, performed at Trinity Episcopal Church in September. The cello ensemble, the Magnolia String Quartet, and the newly formed Georgia Southern Sinfonietta also performed during the fall Chamber Music Recital on Nov. 3.

Foreign Languages

Students Chelsea Ritter, Meghan Mauceri, and Matthew Monaco won \$500 for "Wisdom of the World," their entry in the 2012 Vista Higher Learning Video Contest. The Georgia Southern team was one of six national winners representing universities such as University of Florida, Georgetown University, Michigan State University, Utah Valley University, and University of Virginia.

The Department welcomed Mrs. Suzette N. Guadagno as its new administrative secretary. Guadagno has a distinguished record of service in the University's Bursar's Office and will handle contracts, finances, and other office-related administrative tasks for the Department.

Lecturer of Spanish Dr. Toby Graves' article, "(Author)itative Perspectives: The Infusion of Sociology and Crónica within Brazilian and Colombian Shantytown Testimonial Narrative," will be published in the 45th edition of *Brasil/Brazil* next November by Brown University Press.

Professor Mike McGrath recently completed his three-year term as an elected member of the Cervantes Society of America's Executive Board. He delivered a paper entitled "Don Quijote and Moral Theology: What a Knight and His Squire Can Teach Us About Christian Living" at the Central Texas Cervantes Symposium and his book, *La vida urbana en Segovia: Historia de una ciudad barroca en sus documentos* (*Urban Life in Segovia: History of a Baroque City in its Documents*), was published this month. McGrath's student edition of Calderón de la Barca's *El gran teatro del mundo* (1635; *The Great*

Theater of the World) will be published soon, and his interview with Professor Lisa Abbott of the Department of Communication Arts, "Lope's *Fuenteovejuna* through the Eyes of a Twenty-First Century Director: A Conversation with Lisa Abbott," will be published in the next edition of *Comedia Performance*, the journal of the Association of Hispanic Classical Theater.

On Oct. 27 the Department presented Jon Valentine, program specialist for world languages and international education at the Georgia Department of Education, who spoke on global competence at the Southeast Georgia World Languages Collaborative, an event sponsored by the Department to unite K-12 and university language professionals.

Under the direction of Dr. Clara Krug, the University hosted its 14th annual French Week in November. The celebration explored French, France and the Francophone world through music, film, history, art, food, and more.

Art

Ceramics Professor Jeff Schmuki was appointed an affiliate faculty member of the University's Institute for Interdisciplinary STEM Education. To be selected, a faculty member must be nominated by an academic leader at Georgia Southern and approved by the i2 STEM Advisory Board.

Derek Larson, professor of new media and animation, recently lectured about his latest show on display at the May Gallery in New Orleans at Tulane University, Loyola University, and the University of New Orleans. Larson is preparing for upcoming solo exhibitions at The Microscope Gallery in Brooklyn, N.Y., opening Dec. 3, and at Vox Pupuli in Philadelphia from Dec. 7-30. Larson is also creating a new study abroad program and exchange between the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art and Sheffield Hallam University in the U.K. He will offer the first course in animation at the English university in July.

On Nov. 10, Photography Professor Jessica Hines spoke at the Southeast Conference of the Society for Photographic Education in Daytona Beach, Fla. An exhibition of Hines' "My Brother's War" is also being featured at [Galerie Lichtblick](#) in Cologne, Germany, a result of Hines' being named one of five international winners of the Kolga Award in Tbilisi, Georgia (the former Russian state) for 2012. Hines also recently created the [cover photograph](#) for Swedish author Håkan Nesser's latest novel, *Münster's Case*, published by Pantheon Books.

Hans Mortensen, professor of graphic communications management, recently completed educational tours for the Averitt Center for the Arts. Mortensen volunteered to demonstrate silkscreening during classes for high school and third-grade students.

Communication Arts

The Department will hold a cake cutting on Monday, Dec. 3, to celebrate the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication's 100th anniversary.

Professor Camille Broadway was selected as a fellow to the Scripps Howard Journalism Entrepreneurship Institute at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication at Arizona State University on Jan. 2-6.

Writing and Linguistics

The Department cosponsored and participated in the successful Statesboro: The Write Place festival. Four faculty members of the Department were prominently featured: Emma Bolden, Jared Sexton, and Laura Valeri as readers at the Nov. 1 opening event, attended by 184 people; and Sarah Domet, who led a workshop on fiction, which drew 30 registered attendees. At the Nov. 2 open-mic reading, hosted by Professor Eric Nelson, 10 writers shared their work. This year the festival included a high-school writing contest, which garnered 103 submissions across the categories of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. Two of the winners attended the Nov. 1 reading, toured Georgia Southern on Nov. 2, and had lunch with Bolden, Sexton, and Nelson.

Lecturer Dr. Sarah Domet had two stories accepted for publication: "A Recipe for Everything" for the next edition of *Barely South Review* and "The Windows of Windham Willows" for the next edition of *Bluestem Magazine*.

Professor Eric Nelson had three poems accepted for publication by *Arts and Letters Prime*, an online multimedia journal. The spring 2013 edition of the journal will include audio of Nelson reading his poems "The Fence Line," "Men," and "The Body Smells."

Associate Professor Laura Valeri's essay "Beating Drums in the Caves of the Underworld: The Creative Process as a Journey into the Spirit World" will be published in the next edition of *Writing and Pedagogy*.

Lecturer Peggy Lindsay presented "Laughing at the Memory: Humor and Identity in Mary Costello's *Titanic Town*" at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Annual Conference.

Lecturer Dr. Margaret Sullivan presented "Like a Penguin: Transgressive Bodies on *Dancing with the Stars*" at Georgia Southern's LGBTQ and Allies Conference.

Literature and Philosophy

Professor Olivia Edenfield's interview with Andre Dubus III has been accepted for publication with *Resources for American Literary Study*. Her edited book, *Conversations with Andre Dubus*, will be published in the spring by the University Press of Mississippi.

Dr. Nicole Karapanagiotis presented at the Humanities and Technology Association conference, and a publication will come from the conference proceedings. Karapanagiotis' course in Sanskrit was featured in the fall 2012 edition of *Georgia Southern Magazine*.

Professors Candy B. K. Schille and Drew Keane, an alumnus and new faculty member, will present at the Southeast Association for Eighteenth Century Studies. Schille's paper is on Dryden's revision of *Troilus and Cressida*, in which, for once, the woman character is not the villain. Keane is promoting how to teach the Restoration and Eighteenth Century.

Professor Joe Pellegrino finished editing the second volume of *Exemplar: The Journal of South Asian Studies*, which is now available on magcloud.

Dr. David Dudley read from his novel *Caleb's Wars* during the second annual Statesboro: The Write Place festival, sponsored by the Statesboro Regional Library, *Statesboro Magazine*, and the Department of Writing and Linguistics.

The Religious Studies program, headed by Drs. Hemchand Gossai and Nicole Karapanagiotis, hosted an undergraduate conference on religion and politics on Nov. 2 and 3.

Sociology and Anthropology

Dr. Nancy Malcom gave an invited research talk at Valdosta State University's Fall 2012 Science Seminar Series entitled "The Creation of STUNT Cheer: A Story of Title IX, Cheerleading, and the Gender Politics of Sport."

Political Science

The Department, in conjunction with the University's Division of Continuing Education, presented a Middle School Model United Nations Conference on Nov. 8 and 9 at the Fielding S. Russell Union. The all-day event featured more than 450 student delegates from 20 schools across Georgia and South Carolina.

Dr. Debra Sabia took three students to the Georgia Political Science Conference, where they presented "Occupy Wall Street: What Is It and Where is the Movement Going?" Sabia also presented "Imagining Democracy" at the conference and published a book with the same title this year with Great River Technologies. Sabia presented a special workshop "Understanding the Current Crisis in Haiti" at First Presbyterian Church in Statesboro to prepare its delegation for a charitable trip to the island, and she was presented with the Distinguished Faculty Award by the Multicultural Student Center.

Dr. Sabia worked with two McNair scholars over the past year: Naudy Solano recently presented research at the Phi Kappa Phi Research Symposium and a professional McNair conference in Albany, N.Y., along with Sabia's second McNair scholar, Tweensqueen St. Baptiste. Sabia also worked with two Canadian students who studied at Georgia Southern through the North American Mobility Project this year.

Jane O. Hunter Harkleroad '64 is retiring Dec. 1 from working at the Cobb County High School Library.

Upcoming CLASS Events

Art

Now - Dec. 14

Faculty Exhibition and Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibitions

Featuring Alicia Perez, painting, and Jennifer McLaughlin, graphic design.

Reception: Nov. 30 at 5 p.m.

Center for Art & Theatre; 912-GSU-ARTS

Now - Dec. 1

Student Artwork Sale

10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday;

Center for Art & Theatre; 912-GSU-Arts

Music

Dec. 2

Jazz Band

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

Mystery ... Wonder ... and Joy: Holiday choral performance features the Georgia Southern Chorale, the University Singers, Fermata the Blue, and the Chancel Choir of First United Methodist Church

7:30 p.m.; First United Methodist Church, Statesboro; 912-478-5396

Dec. 7

Downtown Statesboro Holiday Celebration: Southern Saxophones will perform during the tree lighting

5:45 p.m.; East Main Street, Statesboro; 912-478-5396

Dec. 3

Georgia Southern Symphony

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

Dec. 4

Georgia Southern Wind Symphony

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

Dec. 5

Opera Scenes

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

Dec. 9

Georgia Southern Wind Ensemble

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

Southern Chorale will hold a rummage sale during spring semester to help fund its upcoming trip to Europe. Please think of the Chorale if you do a New Year's cleaning or end up with a lovely gift that you have no use for. Contact Sarah Poole at sarahpoole29@gmail.com or 912-414-0956 to arrange for the items to be picked up.

[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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