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GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Reflective Educators for Diverse Learners

Southern Educator

July 2015

Volume 4 Issue 7

Upcoming Events



**August 12 COE Annual Fall
Faculty & Staff Meeting & Annual**

Online Graduate Education Degrees Earn Top Ranking

Georgia Southern's College of Education online graduate degree programs picked up another top ranking, this time from SR Education Group's, "2015 Top Online Education Degrees." COE ranked 12 among nonprofit colleges and universities offering online education undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs. COE offers nine online master's in education degrees, six



Photograph

August 17 Fall 2015 Classes Begin

Sept. 18 Global Education Summit

Sept. 25 Georgia International Conference on Information Literacy

Sept. 30 Eagle Expo Career Fair



[See full calendar here.](#)

Southern Educator

is published monthly by
**Georgia Southern
College of Education.**



education specialists' degrees and three endorsements. In addition, COE offers hybrid educational doctorate (Ed.D.) and master's programs with both online and campus-based classes. [Continue reading.](#)

Economic Impact of Annual COE Conference Tops \$2 Million

In 2015, the College of Education's (COE) annual National Youth-At-Risk (NYAR) Conference added



\$2.3 million in economic "output" according to a report just released by the Bureau of

Business Research and Economic Development (BBRED). The conference, now in its 27th year, is Georgia Southern University's largest and longest running conference.

The economic impact was calculated for Savannah, Georgia, where the conference is held each year. "We've known that the NYAR conference is an important annual event for professionals at all levels dealing with at-risk youth," said COE Dean Thomas Koballa. "What we didn't know is how important this conference is to the local economy, as well," he added. The conference has been held in Savannah, Georgia, since 1989. It is Georgia Southern's longest running national conference. [Continue reading.](#)

Faculty News

Department of Teaching and Learning Associate Professor Christine Draper has donated more than 400 young adult books to the IRC as part of her work as the chair of the Notable Children's Books in English Language Arts, Children's Literature

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Assembly. The seven member national committee selects 30 titles each year that best exemplify the criteria established for the Notables Award. [Click here for more information on the association.](#)

Department of Leadership, Technology & Human



Christine Draper



Fayth Parks speaking with Philp Gold, member of the Library of Congress Scholars Council, during the #ScholarFest

Development Associate Professor Fayth Parks was an invited speaker at the 15th anniversary of The John W. Kluge Center's #ScholarFest in June. Parks was the 2009 David B. Larson Fellow in Health and

Spirituality. [Click here for more information.](#)

COE Dean Thomas Koballa's Textbook was recently published in Korea.

Chiappetta, E. L. & Koballa, T. R. (2015). *Science instruction in the middle and secondary schools*, 8th edition. Boston, MA: Pearson.



Alumni Updates

1950-1959

Robert A. Taylor ('54 B.S.Ed. Industrial Education) is retired. "Even after this long, I miss every minute I spent there."

1960-69

Mary (Hendricks) Phillips ('60 B.S.Ed.) retired from Georgia Southern University and lives in Statesboro.

1970-79

Linda (Hitz) Shinkle ('74 B.S.Ed. Exceptional Children) is a community volunteer in Columbus, Georgia.

Ruth Ann (Joseph) Vericella ('77 M.Ed.) is a retired elementary school principal. She is enjoying

retirement and wintering in south Florida. She lives in Augusta, Georgia.

Janice Williams ('78 M.Ed., '71 B.S.Ed.) is retired and living in Thomson, Georgia.

1980-89

Mima (Hart) Owens ('84 M.Ed. Elementary Education) is a retired teacher.

Sandra (Henderson) Dempsey ('85 B.S.Ed. Early Childhood Education) lives in Millen, Georgia.

Donald Tyre ('87 B.S.Ed. Special Education) is enjoying retirement, his grandchildren and coaching Whitewater High School football. He's also an Eagles fan!

1990-99

Catherine (Sylvia) Pittman ('93 Ed.S. Social Science Education, '89 M.Ed. Early Childhood) lives in Brunswick, Georgia.

Kelley (Donnelly) Anderson ('95 B.S. Ed. English Education) is a teacher with the Screven County Board of Education.

Robert Ergle ('96 B.S.Ed. Health and Physical Education) is the athletic director at West Chatham Middle School and lives in Guyton, Georgia.

Elizabeth (Cox) Moxley ('96 M.Ed. Early Childhood Education, '94 B.S.Ed. Early Childhood Education) is a first grade teacher in the Bulloch County School System.

David Avery ('97 Ed.S. School Administration and Supervision, '90 M.Ed. Health and Physical Education) retired after 30 years in public education. He serviced the last 14 years as principal at Treutlen Middle/High School in Soperton, Georgia. Avery is currently working as the director of high school programs at Southeastern Early College and Career Academy in Vidalia, Georgia, a regional charter career academy service four high schools in Vidalia, Toombs, County, Montgomery County and Treutlen County.

Julie (Alfriend) Ferris ('97 B.S. Ed. Early Childhood Education) is a part-time pre-K and chapel teacher at Northbrook UMC Preschool in Roswell, Georgia. She is also the author of "Badges, Egg Salad and Green Jackets: The Masters A to Z."

Willie Haynes ('97 M.Ed. Technology Concentration, '86, B.S.Ed. Industrial Arts Education) is the CTAE coordinator for Hubert Middle School. He is the Hubert Middle School 2015 Teacher of the Year, is the GACTE Region 2 policy committee representative and is treasurer of the Georgia Engineering Technology Educators organization.

Frederick Bridges ('98 B.S.Ed. Middle Grades Education) is a senior learning science specialist with McGraw-Hill. He is the territory manager for key school accounts in North Texas. "As a former educator, my role allows me to relate to the ever changing needs in today's 21st century classroom."

Anjanette (Walden) McArthur ('99 M.Ed. Counselor Education, '94 Early Childhood Education) is a teacher with the Bulloch County Board of Education.

2000-09

Regina (Johnson) Tabor ('00 B.S.Ed. English Language) is a teacher with the Emanuel County Board of Education.

Mike Woodward ('00 M.Ed. Educational Leadership, '89 B.S.Ed. Health and Physical Education) is serving as an administrative assistant at Forsyth Central High School in Cumming, Georgia.

Woodward was the football, wrestling and baseball coach for 27 years and served 15 years as an athletic director (2002 Georgia State AD of the Year).

Robyn (Lince) Dailey ('04 B.S.Ed. Early Childhood Education) is entering her 11th year of teaching for Cherokee County. She is an ESOL and EIP teacher. "Many thanks to all the professors at GSU who helped prepare me to become an effective educator who always puts kids first."

Eric Guenther ('05 B.S.Ed.) was named the 2015 Dent Middle School Teacher of the Year. Dent Middle School is in Columbia, South Carolina.

Rebecca (Arant) Waters ('06 M.Ed. Spanish, '02 B.S.Ed. Spanish) teaches Spanish for the Candler School District and lives in Statesboro.

Mary (Way) Gaston-Poole ('07 B.S.Ed. English Education) is a teacher for the Tattnall County Board of Education.

Michelle (Spurgeon) Hartzell ('08 Ed.D. Educational Administration) was recently appointed as the new superintendent of Oswayo Valley.

Brad Johnson ('08 Ed.D.) is the author of the recently released book, *From School Administrator to School Leader: 15 Keys to Maximizing Your Leadership Potential*.

Deborah (Gross) Richardson ('08 Ed.D. Education Administration, '02 M.Ed., '99 Specialist, Special Education) is a specialist with Frederica Academy and lives on St. Simons Island.

Inga (Easterling) Cashon ('09 M.Ed. Teaching and Learning, Concentration in Technology Education, '07 B.S.Ed. Education Technology) is an engineering and technology education teacher at Bryan County High School.

2010-

Chris Owens ('12 M.Ed. Secondary Education) is a teacher and lives in Brooklet.

Michele (Jackson) Seals ('12 Ed.D. Curriculum Studies, '00 B.S.Ed.) is completing her fifth year as a middle school principal in Brunswick, Georgia.

Ketty Ballard ('13 M.Ed. Higher Education) is associate director of admissions and recruitment at the University of West Georgia and lives in Carrollton, Georgia.

Sara Lucas ('13 B.S.Ed.) lives in McDonough, Georgia.

Kaitlyn Thigpen ('13 B.S.Ed. Special Education) is a special education teacher with the Pierce County School System.

Cadi Griffin ('14, M.Ed. Counselor Education) is a school counselor for Long County Middle School.

Paula Denyse Vincent ('14 M.Ed. Higher Education) is director of the Recreation Services and Fitness Center at Piedmont College and lives in Demorest.

Brad Cowart ('15 Ed.S. Secondary Education, Mathematics) is a math teacher in Lee County.

Oscar Ceron ('15 Ed.D. Curriculum Studies) is a teacher with the Columbia County Board of Education and lives in North Augusta, South Carolina.



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