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**GEORGIA  
SOUTHERN  
UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**  
*Reflective Educators for Diverse Learners*

# Southern Educator

September 2015

Volume 4 Issue 9

## Upcoming Events



**Sept. 18 Global Education Summit**

**Sept. 25 Georgia International  
Conference on Information Literacy**

**Sept. 30 Eagle Expo Career Fair**

**Oct. 7 Georgia Southern Graduate  
School Fair**

**Oct. 16-17 Georgia Educational  
Research Association**

**Oct. 23-25 Rural HIV Research and  
Training Conference**

GLOBAL EDUCATION SUMMIT  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2015  
COASTAL GEORGIA CENTER  
SAVANNAH, GA



## COE Names Annual Faculty and Staff Award Winners



*From left to right: Ms. Lydia Cross, Dr. Dawn Tysinger, Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson, Dr. Alma Stevenson, Dr. Jeffrey Tysinger*

The 2015 Jack Miller faculty and Betty-Ware Wray staff awards were announced at the College of Education's annual Fall Faculty and Staff Meeting on August 13, kicking off the 2015-16 academic year.

The Jack Miller Faculty Awards are given annually to recognize and reward faculty for demonstrated excellence in the areas of teaching, service and scholarship/creative activity. The awards are determined by a faculty member's performance based on specific criteria. This year, awards were made in all areas as well as the Jack Miller Educator of the Year Award.

Jack Miller was a former dean of education at Georgia

[See full calendar here.](#)

## Georgia Southern vs. UGA Football Game Tickets- Enter Now for Chance to Win



Keep in touch with COE and have a chance to win 4 tickets to watch Georgia Southern vs. UGA on November 21, 2015. All COE graduates are eligible. Enter the drawing by filling out the Alumni survey at the end of the newsletter. The winner will be announced on November 5, 2015.

## Southern Educator

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College of Education.

Southern and in 1994 endowed the award. He is now President of Central Connecticut State University.

Betty-Ware Wray was a beloved member of the COE staff. Her family endowed an award to annually recognize a COE staff member who has excelled in job performance and university service.

Associate Professor Dawn Tysinger, Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development won the Jack Miller Educator of the Year Award. Tysinger is a faculty member in the school psychology program.

Associate Professor Meca Williams-Johnson, Department of Curriculum Foundations & Reading, won the Jack Miller Award for Teaching. Williams-Johnson teaching and research interests include school reform, student motivation, teacher efficacy, African-American education, multicultural curriculum and black feminist theory.

Assistant Professor Alma Stevenson, Department of curriculum, Foundations and Reading, received the Jack Miller Award for Scholarship and Creative Activity. Stevenson's research interests include diverse learners, sociocultural and linguistic perspectives on science education, K-6 language and literacy development, classroom discourse analysis, critical discourse analysis (CDA) and ESL/Bilingual education.

Associate Professor Jeffrey Tysinger, Department of Leadership, Technology and Human Development, received the Jack Miller Award for Service. Tysinger is a faculty member in the school psychology program.

Director of the Graduate Academic Services Center (GASC) Lydia Cross, won the 2015 Betty-Ware Wray staff award. GASC is a freestanding advising and recruitment center for COE graduate students.

## COE Faculty Wins University-Wide Excellence Award





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Associate Professor Lina Soares, Department of Teaching and Learning, received the University-wide award for Excellence in Contributions to Instruction for 2015-2016 during Fall Convocation earlier this month. The award is one of three annual Awards in Excellence which include Excellence in Instruction, Excellence in Research/Creative Scholarly Activity and Excellence in Service. The program was established in 1985 to "recognize and reward faculty for exceptional achievements and to provide opportunities for faculty development."

Soares won the Jack Miller Award for Educator of the Year in 2014 which she said led to her nomination for the Award for Excellence. "I am very honored and feel proud to receive an award from my peers because it is the University Faculty Development Committee that makes the determination," Soares said. Her work centers on critical pedagogy and critical literacy, content-area literacy, adolescent literacy, teacher education and gifted education.

The Award for Excellence in Contributions to Instruction focuses on the faculty member's contributions to the teaching-learning process at the institutional level. The award winner must demonstrate excellence in the classroom as well as "making contributions to the discipline and to the overall institutional mission."

"Dr. Soares is a respected and valued member of the COE faculty. As a College focused on preparing educators and educational leaders we're honored to have one of our own recognized for this special award, especially in the area of the teaching-learning process," said COE Dean Thomas Koballa.



## COE Graduate Programs Hosting Virtual Fair

If you are considering returning to graduate school and

would like more information about the 22 graduate programs COE offers, attend the virtual fair on October 15, 2015.

You can sign up to attend [here](#)!



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**Alumni: We want to stay in touch with you. Don't forget to fill out our alumni survey form.**

**[Click here for our Survey.](#)**

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