

CLASS Notes

August 31, 2013

Georgia Southern University

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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



August 31, 2013

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

Greetings!

September is National Preparedness Month, and while this annual event surely reminds us to take precautions in case of a hurricane, tornado, theft, wildfire, or some other catastrophe, it also reminds me, as we are one month in to a new academic year, of the College's mission to prepare its students for whatever might come their way.

In CLASS, we know that the liberal arts teach us to be educatable, that is, to be a lifelong learner who can adapt to many types of organizations, surroundings, people, and situations. William Felice, the associate dean of general education at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., recently wrote a column for the *Tampa Bay Times* outlining some of the major skills that the liberal arts aim to teach to enable students "to move beyond illusive walls and barriers and open themselves up to new ways of 'looking' at the world." These skills, Felice says, come from asking the "big questions" that students face in the liberal arts classroom: What is justice, what is freedom, what is sacred?

Some students undoubtedly come to college with set beliefs about these questions - things that they have gleaned from family, friends, and past experiences - and that's okay. The job of liberal arts faculty members, however, is to provide students with definitions that might differ from their own and to shepherd them toward either a new understanding or a greater understanding of why they hold the beliefs they do, and these skills, enhanced level of self-awareness, and awareness of others certainly help them to become more prepared for many situations.

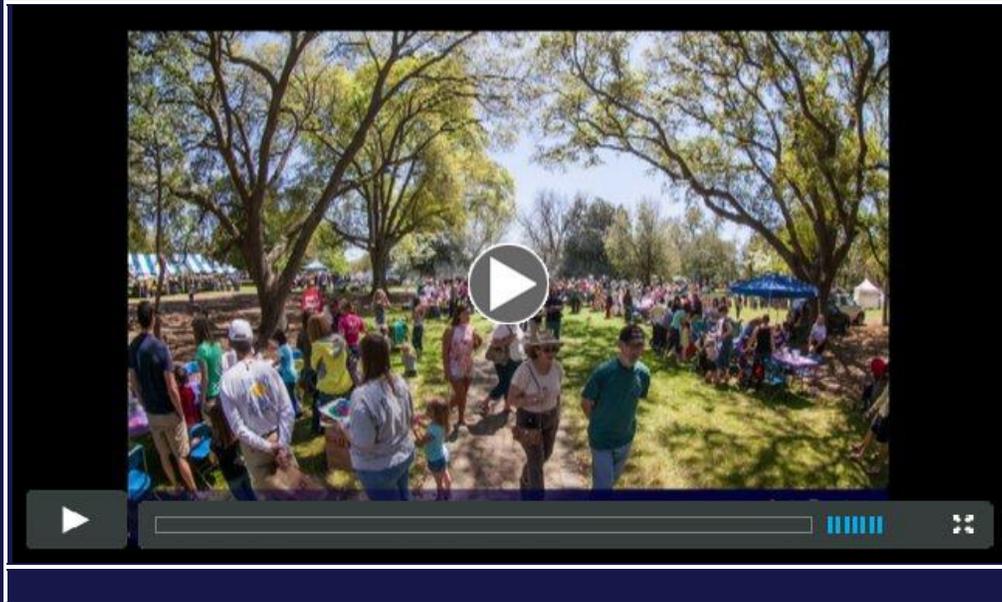
How has your liberal arts education helped you to be more prepared in your professional life? We'd love to hear from you: Drop us a line at class@georgiasouthern.edu or fill out the online alumni survey, and in your response please also update us on your life events (honors, awards, promotions, and successes).

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Curtis E. Ricker".

Curtis E. Ricker, interim dean

Art



Forbes magazine says that creativity is an undeniable catalyst to an organization's success. At the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, faculty work diligently to prepare students to become these very creators that organizations cannot survive without.

Leading by example, faculty members demonstrate their craft through actively creating works, completing research, and presenting at conferences. During the 2012-2013 academic year, faculty collectively crafted nearly 100 creative works and presented 40 papers at various professional conferences. Notable awards in the past year include Photography Professor Jessica Hines' international Kolga Award, hosted in the former Russian state of Georgia. Hines was recognized as the winner for Best Experimental Photography Project and was one of only five to receive a 2012 Kolga. 4D Studios Professor Derek Larson was one of four finalists named from a pool of 370 applicants for the prestigious Hudgens Prize given annually by the Hudgens Center for the Arts in Duluth, Ga. Sculpture Professor Marc Moulton received the University's 2012 Award of Excellence in Research and Creative Scholarly Activity. Also, during the summer, three faculty members led study abroad opportunities including Jessica Burke, Julia Fischer, and Derek Larson; two others, Jeff Schumki and Patricia Walker, had residencies.

The Department continues its efforts to reach the community and provide students with valuable workforce experience. The 2012 Empty Bowl Project's chili sale raised a record \$3,930 for the Statesboro Food Bank and contributed to the University receiving its first-ever recognition in The President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. ArtsFest celebrated its 31st year with one of the largest crowds to date, hosting 30 Art Stops and more than 20 artist market vendors. Department-led Eagle Nation on Parade now has eight eagles nested in Bulloch County for visitors to explore. Eagle Nation on Parade also completed the first year of the Eagle Nation in Education program in 2012, allowing local students a chance to design the next eagle. The winner, then-seventh grader Kelsey Fallin, created her "Statesboro Nation" with Master of Fine Arts candidate Janet Suarez. Current MFA student Scott Foxx was the artist for the latest eagle, "Bulloch County Family Tree," to be installed at the Statesboro Regional Library on September 25.

Over the past year, gallery programming featured several artists with outstanding national and international reputations. It is a testament to both the Department and Georgia Southern that we were able to highlight artists whose works have been displayed at venues such as the Museum of Arts & Design in New York, Katzen Art Center in Washington D.C., Witherspoon Museum of Art in North Carolina, Danforth Museum of Art in Massachusetts, Yale University, Robert Steele Gallery in New York, Luis de Jesus in Los Angeles, DCKT Projects in New York, Parsons Gallery in Paris, Dietch Projects in New York, and many more. In addition to presenting exhibitions, the gallery hosted nine visiting artist lectures and/or sessions where artists would provide students with feedback regarding their artwork.

Our students have also been hard at work this past year with the graphic designers earning ADDYs from the American Advertising Federation of Savannah. Sixteen students pursued opportunities for real-world experience through internships worldwide including locations such as India, the United Arab Emirates, and the UK.

Our alumni are active in their fields and are award winning, published and respected throughout their communities. They have held internships at establishments such as Toms Shoes, Anthropology, QuadGraphics, and Trader Joes. Some have become entrepreneurs and active exhibiting artists while others hold jobs with notable companies such as R.R. Donnelly, CNN, Turner Broadcasting, ESPN, Georgia Pacific, Victoria's Secret, The Museum of Fine Arts Houston, and Cartoon Network.

The Department welcomes new foundations professor Sarah Bielski this year and will be searching for a new chair and art history lecturer in the coming year. The Department has an event going on each month whether it is in the galleries or the community! Thanks to a CLEC grant, the BFSDoArt will host a screening and director's talk of *Linotype: The Film*, a feature-length documentary centered on the linotype type-casting machine. The Department is also excited to announce that it will reintroduce the December student artwork sale! Now called "Student Made," the sale will be held in the Center for Art & Theatre and invite students of all BFSDoArt disciplines to join in selling their work! So, watch your calendars for the upcoming 2013-2014 BFSDoArt events!

At the Front of the CLASS

My name is D'Antre Harris, and I am a sophomore at Georgia Southern University majoring in 2D studio art.

When I came to Georgia Southern, I intended to stay two years, at the most, and then leave to continue my education completely online, as I would be working with Cartoon Network to produce my first cartoon. (I have a tendency to be overly ambitious.) Needless to say, I am still enrolled at Georgia Southern as a full-time student, and despite my delayed plans with Cartoon Network, I am very happy to be continuing my education as an Eagle.

Though I was accepted by several large colleges, Georgia Southern's "Large Scale, Small Feel" slogan stuck with me. Georgia Southern backs up that slogan time and time again, as I am able to network with many different and interesting people, make new friends, and experience the benefits of working closely with professors. The campus is beautiful, the atmosphere is comfortable and welcoming, and, to top it all off, the professors and faculty care about the students. Georgia Southern has transformed the teacher-student conversation from, "Here are the notes. I'm going to talk. Pass the test," to, "Here's what we will be learning today. Please feel free to ask questions. I am here to help."



Before I knew what art really was, I was drawing cartoon characters from my favorite childhood shows, building mini-worlds with Play Dough in shoeboxes, writing and illustrating short stories, and even acting out scenes I invented to take place within the Star Wars saga (trilogy at the time) using Lego blocks to construct spaceships. However, as I got older, I became increasingly interested in 2D art. I love that I can draw out an idea from my imagination and share it with others. Being a 2D studio major in the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art has proven to be more than drawing with graphite or painting with traditional paint. What I love most is that all areas of art are unified and work together rather than stand-alone. My professors have expanded my knowledge of what art is and what art can be, and they continue to do so every day. I have a great interest in 2D- and 3D-animation, and, though there is not yet a degree in animation, I have been able to take an animation course with Derek Larson, who has greatly assisted my learning in not only becoming an animator but using animation in conjunction with other art media such as, painting, drawing, sculpting, etc. Every faculty and staff member I have encountered has been very generous with their time and knowledge, and I honestly can't imagine getting the same experience anywhere else.

Since attending Georgia Southern, I have had the privilege of getting involved in many activities: I entered and won Juror's Choice in the Foundations Exhibition in Spring 2012 held at the Center of Art & Theatre. I was promoted from Treasurer to President of Georgia Southern's Student Art League. I am a member of Euphoria Dance Crew with which I have performed, won competitions, and become a part of their family. I volunteered at ArtsFest 2012 and hosted a booth and sold my work at ArtsFest 2013.

I am creator of Art of Tre and Thrive, which is currently a simple art page on Facebook but will eventually expand into a business to further my career and the careers of other artists, once I can to offer assistance to others like the BFSDoA faculty offered me. I am co-producer of Griot Stu, a

young production company created by my friend Tsiambwom Akuchu, a theatre major at Georgia Southern. As of summer 2013, I have been working with Marc Mitchell as a gallery assistant, which is furthering my personal and professional growth.

I was recently awarded the Betty Foy Sanders Scholarship 2013-2014. The award has given me peace of mind this academic year by providing the funds I need for art supplies and books and allowing me to concentrate on my education, gaining outside experience, and on- and off-campus networking. This scholarship has equipped me with the tools necessary to further myself as an artist. I now aspire to not only become an animator but also a professional fine artist and maybe even a professor or mentor one day. My achievements and experiences are just the tip of the iceberg; I have only just begun my journey as an artist and I am confident that I will one day reach the top. I attribute this confidence to the faculty and staff of CLASS, the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art, and Georgia Southern University.

Department News

Communication Arts

Asia Anderson, a double-major in public relations and psychology, was profiled by *Connect Statesboro*.

The Theatre & Performance program's *Wham, Bam, Play Slam* production was filmed by *Studio Statesboro*.

One of the Department's newest professors, Dr. Jennifer Kowalewski (multimedia journalism), has three upcoming articles: "It's not Just a Laughing Matter: How Entertainment News Programs Influence the Transfer of the Media's Agenda to the Public's Agenda Similarly to Traditional Hard News" in *Agenda Setting in a 2.0 World: New Agendas in Communication*, published by Routledge Press; "Does Humor Matter? An Analysis of How Hard News versus Entertainment News Styles Influence the Agenda-Setting Effects" in *Southwestern Mass Communication Journal*; and "To Laugh or Not to Laugh: How Different Versions of News Stories Interact with Cynicism and Efficacy to Impact Individuals' Acceptance of the Media Agenda" in *Southwestern Mass Communication Journal*.

Michelle Groover was interviewed by *Inside Higher Education* for its article "Another Digital Divide."

Literature & Philosophy

Dr. Olivia Carr Edenfield's book *Conversations with Andre Dubus*, published by the University of Mississippi Press, was released August 1.

Doug Thomson's article "The Earliest Parodies of Gothic Fiction" will be including in the forthcoming book *Gothic World*. Thomson has also been contracted to contribute "Shorter Gothic Fictions: Ballads and Chapbooks, Tales and Fragments" to *The Edinburgh Companion to Romantic Gothic*.

Richard Flynn's essay on Joni Mitchell, "'Like a Cactus Tree': Coming of Age with Joni Mitchell's Music" was published in *Gathered Light: The Poetry of Joni Mitchell's Songs*.

Bill Eaton presented "Robert Boyle in Ireland: Medicine and the Mechanical Philosophy" at the international Robert Boyle Summer School in Lismore, Ireland on July 5. Eaton also met with the Kilkenny College Council to discuss the details for Educating the Irish Genius, an international philosophy conference he's directing in Kilkenny, Ireland, for Summer 2014. He was also able to make progress in finding the location of Boyle's lost anatomical laboratory in Dublin.

Caren Town been accepted to two conferences this upcoming term. The first is the ALA Symposium in New Orleans in October where she will present a paper with Mary Stephens, a recent M.A. graduate, on dystopian nostalgia and childhood. Town also is giving a paper on Jean Craighead George at a humanities and social

sciences conference in Hawaii in January. She has also been elected to the University Club's board of directors as membership chair.

Dr. Tim Whelan spent almost six weeks in the UK in June and July, funded by a \$6000 Franklin Travel Grant from the American Philosophical Society. During his time there, he transcribed more than 100 letters of the diarist Henry Crabb Robinson (1775-1867), working in the archives of the National Library of Scotland (Edinburgh), the Wordsworth Museum (Grasmere), the Bodleian Library (Oxford), Manchester-Harris College Library (Oxford), British Library (London), Dr Williams's Library (London), Lambeth Palace (London), University College (University of London), the Public Record Office (London), Senate House Library (London), Wellcome Library (London), Royal College of Physicians (London), Royal Holloway (University of London), Fitzwilliam Museum (Cambridge), Trinity College Library (Cambridge), Robinson Library (University of Newcastle), and West Yorkshire Archives (Leeds). Whelan presented a lecture on July 6 at the Wordsworth Museum, Grasmere, on "My dear Friend: Crabb Robinson's Correspondence with Mary Wordsworth, 1837-58," and he co-chaired a workshop in London on July 12 for the editorial team of the Crabb Robinson Diary Project, of which he is the general editor.

History

Jonathan M. Bryant's book chapter "'Surrounded on All Sides by an Armed and Brutal Mob': Newspapers, Politics, and Law in the Ogeechee Insurrection, 1868-1869" was published in *After Slavery: Race, Labor, and Citizenship in the Reconstruction South*.

Sociology & Anthropology

Graduate student Ryan Sipe's article, "Life and Death on the Ogeechee: A View from the Redbird Creek Village (9BN9) and its Environs," was published in the Anthropological Papers of the American Museum of Natural History, No. 98.

In late July, MASS graduate student Ryan Sipe and faculty members Jared Wood and Lance Greene traveled to Montezuma Well, a natural and cultural site managed by the National Park Service in central Arizona. The team was contracted to document a frontier smokehouse from the late 1800s using terrestrial LiDAR scanning technology. The smokehouse is the earliest remaining structure from the "Back Ranch," a homestead, farm, and livestock operation established by William B. Back in 1888. The Back Ranch is currently nominated as a Historic District with the National Register of Historic Places, and the smokehouse is regarded by some as the oldest standing log structure in Arizona. Using this advanced laser scanning technology, Sipe, Wood, and Greene gathered data in the field and are creating an accurate digital rendering of the smokehouse, which will aid the National Park Service in current monitoring efforts and possible stabilization of this important cultural resource.

Sociology and psychology double-major Elizabeth Kicklighter was [profiled](#) by Connect Statesboro.

Camp Lawton was featured by "[Georgia Focus](#)" on the Georgia News Network.

April Schueths' article "'It's Almost Like White Supremacy': Interracial Mixed-Status Couples Facing Racist Nativism" was accepted for publication by *Ethnic and Racial Studies*.

Music

Southern Pride's work to prepare for the upcoming football season was featured in the [Statesboro Herald](#).

Foreign Languages

The Department's recent Fulbright FLTA in Arabic, Aya Chebbi, was named one of [Africa's 28 Most Outstanding Emerging Young Women Leaders](#).

Mike McGrath's article "The (Ir)relevance of the Aside in Golden Age Drama" was accepted for publication by *Romance Quarterly*.

Writing & Linguistics

More than 400 participants from all over the country and the world, a record attendance, participated in the Council of Writing Program Administrators annual gathering hosted by the Department at the Coastal Georgia Center from July 14-21. Led by Janice Walker and Michael Pemberton, this event brings together campus leaders in collaboration, scholarship, and service to improve instruction, impact, and vision.

Visiting Assistant Professor Jennifer Lambeth continues to serve as a district representative for the Savannah-Chatham County School Board, a position to which she was elected in January.

Faculty members Michelle Crummey and Margaret Sullivan spent the summer creating a course template, which will be available to all teachers of First Year Writing at Georgia Southern, that uses the flipped-classroom approach to foster student engagement. They have developed a series of video lessons that moves the lecture out of the classroom, allowing more class time for face-to-face interaction with students. A cutting edge approach to teaching, the flipped-classroom not only creates a collaborative learning environment but also promotes higher order thinking. Because students are evaluating, synthesizing, and applying course concepts, they become active, engaged learners.

Dr. Laura Valeri won the Stephen F. Austin Literary Prize for her recent publication, *Safe in Your Head*.

Professor Michael Pemberton was profiled in *Connect Statesboro*.

Center for Religious Studies

Dr. Hemchand Gossai presented "Echoes of Interrupted Lives and Choosing Otherwise" for Columbus State University's International Learning Community program. He also presented "Jeremiah's Shalom Ethic: Challenging Imperial Militarism" at the 2013 International Society of Biblical Literature Conference in St. Andrews, Scotland, and his book-length monograph, *The Hebrew Prophets: A Post-Holocaust Mandate*, was accepted for publication by Wipf & Stock Publishers.

Institute for Public and Nonprofit Studies

Dr. Cary Christian received a grant to fund his research on best practices in the use of data analytics in consumption tax compliance enforcement.

Alumni News

Lee Berger was named an Explorer by the National Geographic Society.

Christopher Harvin was named to *PR Week's* 40 Under 40 list.

Jeffrey Hanson was named the new state court judge in Bibb County.

Chris Benton ('96) recently became the director of engineering for Fox Television Network.

Donald Guillory ('06) is working on his Ph.D. at Arizona State University, where he began working as an instructor of history in August.

Events

Art

September 5

Artist Talk and Reception: ELISABETH CONDON: THE SEVEN SEAS

Exhibition explores a teenager's first encounter with the Los Angeles nightclub culture of the late 1970s and early '80s. Exhibition runs through September 27.

Artist lecture: 5 p.m. in the Visual Arts Building, Room 2071, reception immediately after in the Center for Art & Theatre. University Gallery at the Center for Art & Theatre; 912.GSU.ARTS

September 16

Artis Talk and Reception: [RENA LEINBERGER: ZERO PANORAMA](#)

Survey of mixed-media installations, photographs, and videos utilize subtle shifts in material as a vehicle for exploring notions of landscape, artifice, and spectacle. Exhibition runs through September 27.

Artist lecture: 5 p.m. in the Visual Arts Building, Room 2071, reception immediately after in the Center for Art & Theatre. Contemporary Gallery at the Center for Art & Theatre; 912.GSU.ARTS

September 30

Screening and Director's Talk: [LINOTYPE: THE FILM](#)

Feature-length documentary centers on the linotype type-casting machine, which revolutionized printing and society.

Russell Union Theater; 6 p.m.; 912-GSU-ARTS

Music

September 8

[FACULTY RECITAL; ARIKKA GREGORY](#)

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

September 12

[FACULTY SHOWCASE](#)

Averitt Center for the Arts; 7 p.m.; 912-478-5396

September 19

[GEORGIA SOUTHERN SYMPHONY](#)

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

September 21

[VOCAL ARTS GALA](#)

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall; 5:30 p.m.; 912-478-5396

September 27

[FACULTY VOICE RECITAL](#)

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

September 29

[GEORGIA SOUTHERN SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE](#)

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

Center for Irish Studies

September 9

[DR. JENNIFER ORR: WHERE SCOTLAND MET IRELAND:](#)

[POETRY OF THE ROMANTIC PERIOD](#)

World-class scholar of Oxford University and University of Dublin presents lecture appropriate for

anyone interested in Ireland, Scotland, multiculturalism, ethno-political history, and/or popular poetry or linguistics.

Carol A. Carter Recital Hall; 7 p.m.; 912-478-2350

Writing & Linguistics

September 12

HARBUCK SCHOLARSHIP READING, AWARD PRESENTATION, AND RECEPTION

Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Technology, Room 1005; 7 p.m.; 912-478-0141

Communication Arts

September 25 - October 2

THE CLEAN HOUSE

Play by Sarah Ruhl is a whimsical romantic comedy centered on Matilde, a Brazilian cleaning woman who would rather be a comedian.

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

Full Calendar of 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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