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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



Southern Educator

Reflective Educators for Diverse Learners

January 2018

Volume 7 Issue 1

Upcoming Events



January 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
University Closed

January 19

COE Faculty & Staff Meeting
at Student Union Ballroom AB,
Armstrong Campus
10am - 3pm
[More Information](#)

January 29

Deadline for GS Faculty
Research Committee internal
awards competition
[More Information](#)

January 30

EAGLE Academy,
Open House Ceremony
COE 2148 | 3pm
Statesboro Campus

February 2

College of Education Visit Day
Russell Union | 12 - 4pm
Statesboro Campus
RSVP Today!

February 9-10

Cross-Cultural Counseling &
Education Conference for
Research, Action and Change
[More Information](#)

February 17

Science Olympiad 2018
Regional Tournament hosted by
Georgia Southern University
For more information,
Contact i2STEMe

Eagle Educator starts campaign to help newly graduated teachers



Each semester, students graduating from an undergraduate teacher preparation program at Georgia Southern participate in a pinning ceremony. The ceremony is a symbolic milestone acknowledging that

the educator will always be an Eagle Educator.

In fall 2017, when early childhood education majors walked across the stage of the College of Education's auditorium, in addition to their Eagle Teacher pin, they also received something special-something they weren't expecting. All 33 students that graduated from the B.S.Ed. Early Childhood Education program received a classroom starter kit-complete with some initial school supplies for their classrooms.

Kits included pencils, pens, crayons, markers, tape, paper clips, glue, hand sanitizer and sticky notes. Each gift bag was personally stuffed by one of their peers who also walked the stage to be pinned that December--**Brandi Jackson**. A fall 2017 graduate of the early childhood education program, Jackson has a heart for helping others.

>>> [Read full story.](#)

College of Education collaborates with Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program



February 23-24

International Critical Media
Literacy Conference
[More Information](#)

March 4-7

National Youth-At-Risk
Conference - Savannah
[More Information](#)

March 20

Education Career Fair
Nessmith-Lane Center,
Statesboro Campus
10am - 1pm

March 23-24

Interdisciplinary STEM Teaching
& Learning Conference
[More Information](#)

[See COE Event Calendar](#)



On Nov. 17, junior and senior special education and dual certification (early childhood and special education) majors at Georgia Southern University participated in an assistive technology workshop hosted by Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program.

Housed on the Georgia Institute of Technology's campus, Tools for Life provides access to and acquisition of assistive technology devices and services in the state of Georgia for all ages and disabilities to have greater access and opportunity to learn. Assistive technology includes any item or piece of equipment that increases, maintains or improves the functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of life including school.

>>> [Read full story.](#)

Special education majors present with COE faculty at state conference



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Georgia Southern University special education faculty Kymberly Harris, Ph.D. presented with six undergraduate students at the Georgia Positive Behavior Supports (GAPBS) conference held Nov. 28-29, in Duluth, Georgia.

Harris presented with special education majors (pictured l-r) **Rebecca Hinrichs, Tasha**

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to a Friend

LIVINGOOD, KYLIE BRADY, MEGAN FROMME, CLAIRE WALDMANN and SHANNON RAINEY. Their presentation, titled "Using Best Practice to Teach Best Behavior," focused on one of the major components of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS), the design and instructional delivery of behavioral expectations to middle and high school students.

>>> [Read full story.](#)

Middle level teacher candidates present at national summit as grant winners

Two Georgia Southern University undergraduate students joined middle level educators and pre-service teachers from across the country in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the annual conference of the Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE), on Nov. 6-8. Prior to the conference, a Collegiate Middle Level Association (CMLA) Summit was held to provide an opportunity for teacher candidates from various chapters of the CMLA to network, learn and share.

Margaret Jones(left) and **Devynn Dunn** (center), middle grades teacher candidates and CMLA co-presidents at Georgia Southern, attended both the summit and conference thanks to the CMLA Chapter Grant. This award from the AMLE Foundation provided funding for teacher candidates to attend the CMLA Summit and AMLE Conference and to present to their peers during the Summit.



>>> [Read full story.](#)

Additional Headlines



Potential high school and transfer students invited to attend COE Visit Day
College to host College and campus tour on Statesboro Campus Feb. 2



Sign up to receive new COE Research Briefs (see right hand column to join mailing list)
Series includes summary and practical application of current research

Faculty Updates



Karin Fisher, Ph.D., assistant professor in the Dept. of Elementary and Special Education, presented with her 14-year-old son, Scott Fisher, as the annual TASH Conference, held Dec. 13-15 in Atlanta. The Fishers' poster presentation providing information about the importance of engaging students with disabilities in after school robotics programs.

TASH is a non-profit organization that advocates for the full inclusion and participation of children and adults with significant disabilities in every aspect of their community.

Brandon Hunt, Ph.D., professor in the Dept. of Leadership, Technology and Human Development, published an article in the International Journal for Advancement of Counseling titled, "**Students with Disabilities: Practical Information for School Counselors in Turkey.**" The article addresses the need for and lack of literature in Turkey focused on providing school counselors with practical information about working with students with disabilities. Providing current and functional information, Hunt and co-author Elif Simsir, also detail a comparative perspective for counselors and readers who are interested in students with disabilities and inclusive education in other countries.

Fayth Parks, Ph.D., associate professor in the Dept. of Leadership, Technology and Human Development will conduct a webinar training in Jan. 2018 for the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**(SAMHSA) titled "Challenges and Opportunities for providing HIV/AIDS and Behavioral Healthcare in Rural Settings." This webinar is part of the Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) for MAI Continuum of Care (CoC) Pilot, Integration of HIV Medical Care into Behavioral Health Programs (MAI-CoC) project.



Attorney says College of Ed. is still an important part of his life

College of Education (COE) alumnus **Tracy Jerrel "Jerry" Snider (BSEd Middle Grades, '95)** is a Claxton, Georgia native who began his career teaching middle school in South Carolina. Snider was later offered an opportunity to attend law school and received his Juris Doctorate from the Florida Coastal School of Law. He became a practicing attorney but never forgot about his time at Georgia Southern University.

Today, Snider serves as a COE Advisory Board member and has become an advocate for the College's 1906 Current Use Scholarship program. Snider is a charter member of the program which offers scholarships to incoming freshmen.



"I graduated from the COE as a third-generation educator," Snider said. "It has and always will be an important part of my past and future. Watching and listening to my grandmother, my father, and my sister, I know firsthand the dedication it takes to be a teacher, and the sacrifices a good teacher makes to be effective and a difference maker."

"I was blessed to be able to contribute toward helping the future 'difference makers,'" he added, and that is why I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the College's board and to be able to help with the education of future teachers."

For information on how you can support the College of Education and the Current Use Scholarship program, please contact John Ramfjord at jramfjord@georgiasouthern.edu.