

CLASS Notes

April 1, 2016

Georgia Southern University

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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "CLASS Notes" (2016). *CLASS Notes*. 76.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/class-notes/76>

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CLASS *notes*

COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS &
SOCIAL SCIENCES



April 1, 2016



**GEORGIA
SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Greetings!

Spring is in full bloom at Georgia Southern: the azaleas have burst into color, the pine pollen has turned all the cars yellow, and students and faculty are making the final push toward the end of the semester and May commencement.

Soon a new group of graduates will join our alumni family. We hope you have enjoyed reading about their accomplishments this past year and are as proud of them as we are. We are especially proud of Alicia Carter, CLASS graduate in sociology and psychology, who was the University's representative at the University System of Georgia's recent academic recognition day (please see accompanying entry under Alumni News).

The upcoming Honors Day celebration will be filled with many CLASS students, and this month will see a much-expanded CURIO Symposium (Center for Undergraduate Research and Intellectual Opportunities) featuring student presentations from many of the programs in CLASS.

Elsewhere in the College, we are busy with plays, reading, recitals, and more than a few final lectures and discussions. We'd love to have you join us at any of our events!

Best wishes,

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

Curtis E. Ricker, dean

CLASS Advisement Center

The CLASS Advisement Center supports the mission and strategic agenda of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences by providing students with the resources and support services they need to achieve academic excellence. Beginning in 2012, the Georgia Southern University transitioned to a professional advising model which shifted academic advising away from faculty members and onto full-time staff members who could focus on each student's individual success. Today, the CLASS Advisement Center is staffed with 15 full-time academic advisors who advise the college's population of more than 4,500 students.

CLASS Advisors are known for excellence in their performance as well as pursuing professional development through research of the higher education and advising fields. For the current academic year, 13 CLASS advisors were nominated for an Outstanding Advisor Award at Georgia Southern. Nominations were received from faculty, staff, and students across campus. This year, the college's own Christy Curley was selected as the 2015-16

Outstanding New Advisor. Christy is a "Double Eagle" graduate having earned both a Master of Education in Student Services Counseling and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Georgia Southern. In addition to advising English, Philosophy, and Writing and Linguistics majors, Christy teaches FYE 1220, volunteers on the University's Student Conduct Board, and participates in several academic committees. In October, Christy presented at the National Academic Advising Association's (NACADA) Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nev. Along with her husband Scott, a fellow academic advisor at Georgia Southern, Christy presented on a model of academic coaching she has developed, using Newton's Law of Inertia as a framework for creating an academic success plan.

Christy will represent Georgia Southern University as an official nominee for the 2015-16 National Academic Advising Association's Outstanding New Advisor Award. Recipients will be honored at the Awards Ceremony held during the NACADA Annual Conference this fall.

This semester advisors Danielle Bostick (Sociology, Anthropology, Justice Studies), Veena Shankar (Music, Theatre), and Jennifer Youmans (Online General Studies) were also selected to present a panel discussion at the regional NACADA conference titled "Derailed: Coping with the Woes of Readmits through Advisement." They travelled to Orlando, Fla., earlier this month to present their experiences and processes for serving readmit students that includes a profile of these students, the process of helping students find or rediscover the program that fits them best, and the continuing challenges they face combining their personal and academic lives.

Bachelor of General Studies

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University offers both an on-campus and fully online Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) degree. Recently, the college changed the name of the major within the BGS degree to "Interdisciplinary Studies," which accurately reflects the nature of the BGS program. This flexible and multi-disciplinary degree offers a well-rounded education that prepares graduates for a variety of careers and graduate programs.

Currently, this degree program houses 682 students, 285 of whom are on-campus, and 397 are in the fully online program. The college is seeing a trend for the online BGS program as a viable degree-completion option for 'non-traditional' students who began their college careers but had to stop for one reason or another and are interested in returning and finishing their degree.

The structure of the BGS degree allows for considerable flexibility in terms of the academic content and focus for the student. Three concentration areas are selected by the student to customize the content to the needs of the student. In many cases students participating in the fully online program have already established careers and are looking to complete their bachelor's degree to earn promotions or to compete for newer positions. Therefore, the online BGS program is ideal for many who are working or have families while also trying to complete their degree. The online BGS program provides access from any location to help them move forward in their education or career plans.

The on-campus BGS degree offers over 23 concentration options including most majors and minors offered at Georgia Southern. For online BGS students, concentration options have expanded to six varied options including sociology, business, justice studies, writing, and the newest addition - public administration.

A future goal of the BGS program and of the college is to obtain funding for scholarships that can be awarded to students in the non-traditional population. This funding source is needed to assist in the financial burden that these students are often facing when considering a return to college and their education.

Department News

Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art

Sarah Bielski's, M.F.A., works "Yawn" and "Getting to Third" have been accepted into the exhibit "Contemporary Visions: Landscape in the 21st Century."

Santanu Majumdar, M.F.A., will be the keynote speaker at the [East Georgia State College's Critical Thinking Conference on March 25, 2016](#).

Hope Carroll, M.A., has successfully defended her dissertation titled "Graphic Communications Teachers' Concerns and Beliefs Regarding Their Online Teaching of Graphic Communications Hands-On Classes." Carroll will graduate in May with an Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with the Integrative STEM Education program from Virginia Tech.

On March 5 five students from the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art represented Georgia Southern University in the annual Phoenix Challenge Competition, hosted in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Graphic Communications Management students including Alexis Barber, Charles Crawford, Timothy Davis, Hilary Luna, and Heather Yeomans, presented their extensive seven-month project to a panel of experts in the print industry. Hope Carroll, M.A., was lead advisor for this year's Phoenix Challenge team. The team was among nine other colleges competing in the nationally ranked competition and placed fifth overall, beating university rivals Clemson and Appalachian State.

The Phoenix Challenge Competition develops and showcases student's abilities in the realms of business relations, marketing, print, and design. Students are given guidelines to adhere to and a prompt to guide them through the project. Each team must then partner with a local startup company to help design and produce two or three products, which the partnering business may use for future use. Teams have the option to partner with industry companies to help print and construct the finalized products for the presentation. All products are examined thoroughly and judged for specific criterion, including research, concept, design and print.

Department of Communication Arts

Dr. Jason Knowles presented workshops in the Henderson Library, Rm. 1303 on EDpuzzle on March 23rd and March 30th. Attendees at these workshops learned how to create educational mashup videos using available YouTube videos, Khan Academy videos, TED talks, and National Geographic videos.

Dr. Jason Knowles' MMFP 4135 Lighting & Cinematography class collaborated with the Phoenix Air Group in Cartersville, Ga., to complete remote camera training through their UAV program. The MMFP 4135 Students learned how to manipulate robotic gimbal and camera controls accurately as well as coordinate aerial cinematography with an FAA-certified UAV pilot.

Dr. Abby Brooks and communication studies students Erin Bragg, Arshay Jones and Casey Sowers presented "Pitching Yourself to Get in the Game" at the annual Georgia Southern Leadership Conference and Interview Day on March 5. During the session the facilitators coached perspective Georgia Southern students on how to present themselves and network to aid in gaining a scholarship, internship, or job.

Directed by associate professor Lisa Abbott, [A Game of Love and Chance](#) will be presented at the Center for Art & Theatre from Apr. 6-13. Other performances will be presented as follows: The 10th Annual 10-Minute Play Festival, Original scripts by student playwrights, Apr. 15, Sanford hall Rm. 1002. Devised Theatre, an original work created by the Devised Theatre class, Apr. 22, Center for Art & Theatre. Directing Showcase, a collection of scenes directed by students. Apr. 30, Center for Art & Theatre.

Assistant professor Matthew Hashiguchi's documentary film, "Good Luck Soup" and interactive documentary, "Good Luck Soup Interactive" have been invited to film festivals. "Good Luck Soup" will have world premiere at [Cleveland International Film Festival](#) on March 31 and April 2 and screens at the [American Documentary Film Festival](#) on April 2. "Good Luck Soup Interactive" will be included in the [Perspectives Exhibition at the Cleveland International Film Festival](#). "Good Luck Soup" was introduced by a weekly e-magazine, [Fresh Water](#). Hashiguchi also had an interview with [Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards](#) on "Good Luck Soup." Also, [BBC Click](#) interviewed him while he was at the 2016 i-Docs Symposium in Bristol, England.

Department of History

Timothy Teeter, Ph.D., and Julie McGuire, Ph.D., (Department of Art) will lead 25 students for five weeks of study in Italy this Spring/Summer, from May 14 to June 19. They will be based in the town of Monte Compatri located just 20 km outside of Rome. Teeter will be teaching HIST 1111: World Civilization 1 and HIST 5030: The Ancient Roman City, while McGuire will teach ART 1000: Art in Life and ARTH 4435: Art History in Italy. For more information, go to [italyancientandmodern.com](#).

Jeffrey D. Burson, Ph.D., was an invited speaker at the University of California Los Angeles Center for 17th and 18th-Century Studies. His remarks, entitled, "The Polyvalence of Heterodox Sources and Eighteenth-Century Religious Change," delivered on March 4, were part of an international symposium on the Clandestine and Heterodox Sources of Enlightenment. He also chaired a session at the annual meeting of the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750-1850 on which he serves as institutional representative on the Consortium's Board of Directors.

Juanjuan Peng, Ph.D., and Zuo Tang Zhang, M.A., (Foreign Languages) received a small service grant of \$650 from the Office of the Provost to bring bilingual stories related to Chinese culture and history to local libraries and elementary schools. They also organized a special Chinese New Year event at the Statesboro Regional Library last month, an event which was very successful.

Department of Music

Director of Bands, Robert Dunham, D.M.A., alongside a distinguished national panel of evaluators and clinicians, served as one of the adjudicators for the Cobb County District 12 - High School Large Group Performance Evaluations, held at Lassiter High School in Marietta, Ga., March 19 - 21. The team of 10 evaluators and clinicians adjudicated performances by and interacted with 48 high school bands and their conductors over the three-day festival.

As part of the Hillsborough Arts Council Artist Residency Program, Larisa Elisha, D.M.A., and Steven Elisha, D.M.A., presented "Elaris Duo" performances and gave master classes at several high schools in Tampa, Fla. Additionally, Steven Elisha shared the magical world of improvisation in his "Mr. Cello Stories" with over 700 elementary school students.

Clarinet Professor Linda Cionitti, D.M.A., presented a Guest Artist recital at the University of Alabama on March 29th and worked with the clarinet students in a masterclass.

Senior Eric Spencer placed fourth in the International Trombone Association (ITA) Larry Wiehe Solo Trombone Competition. The three top finalists will compete live for the top prize at the International Trombone Festival at Julliard in June. If one of them can't make the trip, Eric will take his place. The Larry Wiehe Solo Trombone competition is for trombonists age 23 and under. The top three finalists (in alphabetical order) are Charles Dieterle (USA), Hélio Góes (Brazil), and Marco Rodrigues (Portugal).

Students travelled to Stetson University this past weekend for Southeastern Region NATS Auditions, and several won awards including Zach Futch, first in the second year men's category, Alex Smith, second in the third year men's category, Travius Burch, fourth place in the Hall Johnson Spirituals category, and Tessa Morris, semifinalist in the second year women's category.

Alumni News

Sheila Boone, who earned an M.A. in History with a Certificate in Public History, is now working as a Program Assistant at the Georgia Historical Society.

Documentaries created by David Waters (06') and his team at WJXT-Jacksonville, Fla., "[Dora: Direct Hit](#)" and "[Tom Wills: 40 Years-The Real Deal](#)," were nominated for 2015 Suncoast Emmy Awards. David Waters started at WJXT-Jacksonville in June of 2006 and was promoted to Commercial Production Coordinator in June 2015. Along with commercials, his department also shot station promotions and documentaries. In 2015, he was Executive Producer, Editor and Photographer for the Jacksonville Jaguars "The Making of The Roar Swimsuit Calendar 2016." He said that he was influenced by former professor Kent Murray (Communication Arts) who passed away in 2015.

Shaunte Francois, a graduate of the Betty Foy Sanders Department of Art at Georgia Southern University, recently was hired by Mickey Lynn, Inc. in Atlanta, Ga., as production assistant for jewelry designs. This opportunity will allow her to learn from an established jewelry company with a web presence and expand her skills. Francois received her Bachelor of Fine Arts (3D Studios concentration) in 2015.

Jasmine Hines (BM in Music Education, Choral Emphasis, 2014) has spent the past two years teaching general music and elementary chorus at Wheelless Road Elementary School in Augusta, Ga. Recently, Hines was accepted into the Master of Music Education program at University of Florida. She will be serving as a graduate assistant in the area of elementary music, starting in Fall 2016.

Jennifer Partridge (BM in Music Education, Instrumental Emphasis, 1999) was recently announced as a winner of the CMA (Country Music Association) Foundation's Music Teachers of Excellence Award. The recognition is part of the "Music Teachers at the Core" initiative. Jennifer is currently teaching music at Cumberland Elementary School in Nashville.



Alicia Carter was Georgia Southern University's representative at the state's academic recognition day. She is pictured (second row, fourth from the right) here with Chancellor Hank M. Huckaby and the representatives from other institutions.

Share your updates with us through [email](#) or by filling out the online [alumni survey](#). It is always wonderful to hear from you!

Upcoming Events

Friday, April 1

Religion in Media: Undergraduate Research Symposium

The Center for Religious Studies at Georgia Southern University presents its Fourth Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium April 1-2 in the Arts Building.

Faculty Strings at Southern Music Festival

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Faculty Strings at Southern Music Festival at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Sunday, April 3

Strings at Southern Music Festival Gala

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Strings at Southern Music Festival Gala at 3 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Tuesday, April 5

Guest Artist: Marine Corps All Star Jazz Band

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Marine Corps All Star Jazz Band at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Wednesday, April 6

A Game of Love and Chance

A Game of Love and Chance by Pierre Marivaux and directed by Lisa L. Abbott runs from April 6-13 in the Center for Art and Theatre. Tickets are \$6 for students and \$12 for general admission.

New Music at Southern

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the New Music at Southern at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Thursday, April 7

Georgia Southern Brass Studio Chamber Recital

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Brass Studio Chamber Recital at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Saturday, April 9

Night of Wild Sax

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents a Night of Wild Sax at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Monday, April 11**General Student Recital #6**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the General Student Recital #6 at 1:25 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Fifth Annual Distinguished Lecture in Irish Studies

The Center for Irish Research and Teaching is hosting its Fifth Annual Distinguished Lecture in Irish Studies with speaker Patricia Harty. Harty is the founder-editor of Irish-America Magazine at 7 p.m. at the Nessmith-Lane Auditorium.

Wednesday, April 13**La Table Francaise**

The French Conversation Table meets at 5:30 p.m. outside the Russell Union Theater.

Georgia Southern Percussion Ensemble

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Percussion Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Wednesday, April 15**Student Brass Quintets Recital**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Student Brass Quintets Recital at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

10th Annual 10-Minute Play Festival

Join us for original plays written, directed and performed by students at 7:30 p.m. in room 1002 of Sanford Hall.

Sunday, April 17**POPS Concert Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the POPS Concert Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Wind Symphony at 6:30 p.m. at Botanical Garden.

Tuesday, April 19**Psychology Department Colloquia with Rebecca Conrad**

Rebecca Conrad will present a lecture titled "Disordered Eating Behaviors in the Female College Population" at 3:30 p.m. in room 2268 of the Carroll Building.

CURIO Symposium

The Center for Undergraduate Research and Intellectual Opportunities presents the 2016 CURIO Symposium April 19 at 6 p.m. at the Carroll Building.

Wednesday, April 20**Mesa de conversación**

The Spanish Conversation Table meets at 4 p.m. in room 1311 of the Forest Drive Building.

Thursday, April 21**Faculty Series Recital with Tim Kitzinger and Tom Pearsall**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents a Faculty Series Recital with Tim Kitzinger, trumpet, and Tom Pearsall, piano, at 7:30 p.m. in the Carter Recital Hall.

Friday, April 22**DO NOT OPEN!**

Join us for a student created original devised theatre piece at 7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. Tickets are \$5.

Le nozze di Figaro

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents Le nozze di Figaro, an opera by Mozart, at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) April 22-23.

Monday, April 25**General Student Recital #7**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the General Student Recital #7 at 1:25 p.m. at the Carter Recital Hall.

Georgia Southern Guitar Ensemble

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Guitar Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. at the Carter Recital Hall.

Tuesday, April 26**Georgia Southern Wind Symphony**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Wind Symphony at 7:30 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center (PAC).

Wednesday, April 27**Great Minds Lecture Series with Jacek Lubecki**

The Great Minds Lecture Series concludes with Jacek Lubecki's presentation titled "ISIS and al-Qaeda as Global Rebels: A Broader Historical Perspective" at 5:30 p.m. in room 2048 of the Russell Union.

Georgia Southern Jazz Ensemble

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Jazz Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. at the Averitt Center for the Arts.

Thursday, April 28**Georgia Southern Symphonic Wind Ensemble**

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Symphonic Wind Ensemble and the Parris Island Marine Band at 7 p.m. at the Performing Arts Center (PAC).

Friday, April 29

Georgia Southern Choral Concert

The Georgia Southern Department of Music presents the Georgia Southern Choral Concert at 7:30 p.m. at the Carter Recital Hall.

Saturday, April 30

Directing Showcase

Join us for nine student directed 10-minute plays at 2 p.m. at the Black Box Theatre.

[\[View Complete Events List on the Georgia Southern Campus Calander \]](#)

Give to CLASS

The College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences aspires to be recognized nationally 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](#).

