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Recommended Citation

Georgia Southern University, "Newsroom" (2006). *Newsroom*. 78.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/newsroom/78>

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Get dirty to raise money for research

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

Here's a chance to get down and dirty to help a good cause. A single-elimination mud volleyball tournament will be held Sunday, Oct. 15, beginning at 9 a.m. next to the Soccer and Track Stadium.

The tournament, held during St. Jude Awareness Week, is a fundraiser for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. University students, faculty and staff are invited to participate. Space is limited to the first 32 teams, with each team consisting of six to 10 co-ed members. Team applications are available in Office of Student Activities in Russell Union Room 1056. A \$25 team participation donation is due by 5 p.m., Friday, Sept. 22, to the Office of Student Activities.

A mandatory captains' meeting will be held Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 5 p.m. in Russell Union Room 2052.

Sponsored by the University's Volunteer Services Office, Campus Recreation & Intramurals, and the Office of Student Activities, the event will also feature free food and giveaways.

For more information, visit <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/volunteer/mudvolleyball.htm> or contact Maggie Jenkins, graduate assistant in the Volunteer Services Office, at ext. 1435 or mjenkin6@georgiasouthern.edu.

HRSA funds SCRUBS to increase number of minority nurses

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

Minorities, long under-represented in health professions, will be encouraged to enter nursing under a new program being launched by Georgia Southern University.

Georgia Southern University and the Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center established SCRUBS, a program designed to recruit minority students to a nursing career. SCRUBS was funded in July 2006 with a three-year grant for \$880,000 from the Health Resource and Service Administration.

“In addition to recruitment activities that will bring potential nursing students into SCRUBS, the program offers students many opportunities to develop long-term mentoring relationships,” said Marian Tabi, Ph.D., associate professor of nursing, who developed the program and serves as principal investigator on the grant. “These mentoring relationships support the retention, progression, and graduation of students, a process that is a priority initiative of the University System of Georgia Board of Regents.” Tabi, who served as a nurse retention counselor at the University of Illinois-Chicago, is uniquely qualified to lead SCRUBS.

SCRUBS aims to involve potential minority nursing students all the way from seventh grade through their senior year of Georgia Southern’s School of Nursing BSN program. The program will attract students, support their academic achievement, and help them learn more about the health care professions. Once involved, the program will help students develop long-term mentoring relationships in the health care delivery system.

“We have created a variety of activities for middle and high-school students to promote nursing as a career,” said Tabi, “and we’ll make scholarships and stipends available to pre-nursing and nursing students to assist with the cost of books, uniforms, and other items that are required.”

The SCRUBS program provides

- Nursing career awareness
- Summer opportunities to build academic skills
- Health Careers Academy
- SEARCH Camp (career exploration)
- A Day in the Life of a Nurse (shadowing)
- Academic counseling and tutoring
- Career and job placement counseling

- PSAT and SAT test preparation
- Test-taking skill builders
- Mentoring
- Financial assistance
- National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) Review

Other faculty and staff who are working to implement SCRUBS include

- Mary Kate Pung, Director of Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Bela Kundu, Health Careers Coordinator, AHEC
- Stuart Tedders, Ph.D., associate professor of epidemiology and Director, Center for Rural Health Research, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health
- Maria Smith, Ph.D., assistant professor, Georgia Southern School of Nursing
- Asha Anumolu, clinical faculty, Georgia Southern School of Nursing
- Cheryl Robinson, clinical faculty, Georgia Southern School of Nursing
- Melissa Lickteig, Ph.D., assistant professor, Georgia Southern School of Nursing

For more information about SCRUBS, contact Dr. Marian Tabi at 912-681-5991 or at mtabi@georgiasouthern.edu.

Keynote speaker brings power of laughter Sept. 23 to student leadership conference

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to attend the fall leadership conference.

Georgia Southern University's Office of Student Leadership will host the "Mission Possible Fall Leadership Conference" Saturday, Sept. 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Russell Union.

"The Mission Possible Leadership Conference promotes leadership development beyond the individual and allows leaders to see how they can impact groups and ultimately apply their leadership skills to impact society," said Kellie Pickett, assistant director of student leadership. "It is our goal to assist students in defining a leadership mission and to help them make their mission possible. The conference also provides an opportunity for students to network with students from Georgia Southern and other area institutions while creating connections with faculty and staff presenters."

The keynote speaker will be Amy Gallimore, an extension specialist for Tennessee 4-H Youth Development. She also runs "The Sweet Corn Company," a small company that focuses on bringing experiential activities and motivational messages to others. Her high-impact training focuses on the health benefits of humor and the power of laughter.

The conference is geared to students of all levels and to faculty and staff members who are interested in leadership. Participants may choose from sessions on ethical leadership, training future leaders, teambuilding, conflict resolution, communication and more. "There is something for everyone, from students interested in developing their leadership skills to experienced leader looking to apply their skills to other areas," Pickett added.

Registration fees are \$10 for Georgia Southern students and \$20 for non-Georgia Southern students. To register, visit <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/leadership/savethedate.php>.

For more information on the conference, contact the Office of Student Leadership at 912-871-1435.