The results for the SWOT survey conducted earlier this semester are in, and the results indicate mixed feelings about the consolidation. President Hebert and the administration called for the survey in order to get an idea of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that students, faculty, and staff felt, post-consolidation. The survey was conducted across all three campuses, and over 400 students from the Armstrong and Liberty campuses participated in the survey. The Inkwell sat down with SGA President Nipuna Amhampala to get a better understanding of the results for Armstrong and Liberty campuses.

As the summary of the results states, most of comments included resentment towards consolidation. President Hebert was not happy to learn that Armstrong students harbored resentment towards the consolidation. However, that feeling of resentment has been conspicuous for quite some time, and for good reason. Armstrong has lost its identity. The morale and spirit of Armstrong’s populace has been considerably lacking for the past two semesters. Every year the Student Government Association has a pool of money from which to allocate funds to support recognized student organizations. Typically, that money is all about spent by this time of year, but this year the fund has a “surplus of money” in Amhampala’s states. “A surplus of money” that can be attributed to a deficit of student engagement. As a result, Nipuna and the SGA are now urging the RSOS’s (Registered Student Organizations) to apply for funds. They have money left over, and they would prefer to spend it on student activities.

The goal is to increase student involvement on campus.

As one anonymous student noted in the survey, there is no great way and/or place to have announce- ments that allow the students to know what is going on around campus. Since we do not have any sporting events on Armstrong’s campus any more, there aren’t many so- cial events on campus, and if there are, then it was not correctly publicized to the students. Students from both cam- puses express concerns about lack of access to resources after the consolidation. It has been stated throughout the consolidation that students will continue to have access to all the programs available to them pre-consolam. Nipuna reiterated the fact that students from “every sin- gle program” will be able to complete their studies on this campus until 2022, but Geor- gia Southern University has been struggling to effective- ly convey information about consolidation activities and post-consolidated decisions to the students.

The number one concern for Liberty students was cam- pus safety. There are no offi- cials of the Georgia Southern Office of Public Safety sta- tioned on Liberty campus. Students in Hinesville do not feel safe on their campus. The University has tried to address the issue by adding more cameras to the campus, but the students want a police officer on Liberty campus.

The Student Scholar- ship Committee, comprised of faculty mem- bers, professors and graduate students of the Armstrong campus of Georgia Southern University, met this week to discuss the prospects for the 24th Annual Student Scholars Symposium. Dr. Joshua Williams, As- sociate Professor in the De- partment of Psychology and Chair of the SSRC committee, has participated in the symposium for several years and notes it to be one of his “fa- vorite events on campus.” Last year over 313 stu- dents participated in the sym- posium, and from all four of Armstrong departments: the College of Education, the College of Liberal Arts, the College of Health Profes- sions and the College of Sci- ence and Technology.

According to Dr. Wil- liams, The College of Science and Technology has account- ed for 65% of undergraduate students each year on aver- age; but a steady trend in par- ticipation has been observed from the other three depart- ments as well.

With this growing num- ber of presenters, Dr. Wil- liams is very eager to see the outcome of this year’s event. “I expect this year’s symposi- um to be the largest, in terms of student participation and overall attendance” said Williams.

Special guests that will be in attendance will include Dr. Antonia Liu, who serves as the Assistant Vice Pres- ident for Research and Eng- agement and the AssistantDean for Student Research and Scholarship at the Uni- versity of North Georgia. She is scheduled to deliver her keynote address at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 18, 2018 in the Ogeechee Theatre.

The Student Scholar- ship Symposium is open to the student body, and students are encouraged to apply and participate; prospective ap- plicants can become a part of a potentially life-changing experience by enrolling in the application process: first, stu- dents provide a detailed abstract about their project and design a poster reflect- ing the key elements of their work; then, before the final day, students should rehearse their presentations and deliver- it in a showcase type style. By taking the initiative to be involved in this process, pre- senters are effectively simu- lating a professional confer- ence. At the meeting for the symposium, faculty members were not the only ones to voice their opinion for upcom- ing event. Students also could not wait to hear about the in- gomious minds of future schol- ars. Rebecca Brown, a senior biology student, said “I love attending events where indi- viduals, especially millen- nials, present innovative ideas that can change the world and inspire others, including me to do the same.” Brown also conferred her plans to present at the upcoming symposium, “just to get more experience.” At the meeting, we also got the chance to speak with Michael Simmings, a sopho- more English student. He speculated that “this [the symposium] will be a great way to get my name out there for future employers down the road and possibly grant me a good paying job.”

At the meeting, Williams wanted to express more of his opinions on the symposium. “I believe it is important to show that we, as a campus community, en- courage students to engage in the transformative experience gained through participating in undergraduate research and creative endeavors,” Williams stated.

BMI Armstrong State University has been consolidated into Georgia Southern University. There are even more influential, student-focused events and organizations that being affili- ated with will grant quality professionals and collegiate opportunities granted from the strengths and op- portunities that Armstrong students are excited about the academic opportunity that the consolidation has brought. With the addition of the Armstrong and Liberty campuses, Geor- gia Southern has become a larger academic powerhouse in the coastal region of SWOT.
According to Samuel, this is the only second College Night they have ever hosted and although there is no guarantee for this to be an ongoing tradition, she said, “we hope to be able to host more of these events in the future.”

During this function, Art Curator, Rachel Reese and Curator and Adjunct Professor, Stephanie Raines, both led unique tours of the two temporary exhibits, Paul Stephen Benjamin: “Reinterpreting the Sound of Blackness” and Cara Mae Weems: “Sea Islands Series.” Both conceptually-driven exhibitions are driven by strong narratives of race and identity and both hold elements of poetry, though each are expressed through different mediums.

“Reinterpreting the Sound of Blackness” is composed of large sound and video installations that include elements of pop-culture, history, and text. With this exhibit, Benjamin attempts to investigate the idea of the color black as sound. The Telfair website describes Benjamin’s motives as the following: “This simple entry point of the ‘color black’ or the ‘sound of black’ is used to explore the complexities, politics, poetics, and subjectivities of racial identity—whether stereotyped, projected, or self-identified.”

At the top of the wide Jepson stairs, a large-scale, entirely black American flag stood outside of the door of the Weems and Benjamin exhibit. Aretha Franklin’s voice singing “God Bless America” permeated through the closed doors and throughout the 3rd floor. In the Stewart South gallery, numerous TVs were effortlessly arranged against the wall. Their flashing red and blue screens displayed the lyrics of “Sexy Back.” The song on its own is fine. However, using it as the opening track of the album, given the supposed goal of the album, may not have been ideal.

The album then proceeds to “Midsummer Man.” This is one of the better tracks on the album. While the lyrics are not great, and it may run a minute too long, the track is still memorable. The title track follows, and, while unsure of what to expect from the track, what was received was surprising. Instead of a piece on which the album can rest, the listener receives a standard apology/promise to be better.

“Higher Higher” is the next, and possibly best, song on the album. The production is great and makes for a worthwhile listening experience. “Wave,” the following track, has the same level of production and well thought-out lyrics, and yet builds an underwhelming and unecessarily repeating chorus.

Production knows how to come in with the first feature on the track “Morning Light” and hearing her sing is always welcome. Unfortunately, the collaboration between her and Timberlake produced an unmemorable song. Chris Stapleton, on the other hand, may have single-handedly saved his track. “Say Something” does not bring much out of Timberlake. However, Stapleton makes a nice contribution, leading to a much livelier and more enjoyable song. The album closed out, quite the opposite of the “we’re doing this along with Valentine’s Day” feeling. It is not a particularly good or bad song. It just does not leave much of an impact one way or another. Although, an unintentional moment of hilarity occurred when Justin said, “get it.” Whether or not Timberlake wants this to be the case or not, he delivers his songs with a gloss that says, “I am way more awesome than you are. Deal with it.” This gloss makes his attempts at working the rough edges of a relationship even more patronizing. His case for the worries do not hold up.

GABRIEL WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Piano in the Arts Presents: “Come Together: An Evening of Relationships”

Last Sunday in the Fine Arts Auditorium, the Department of Art, Music, and Theatre presented another entry of the Piano in the Arts series, promoted by the artistic director of “Piano in the Arts” and assistant professor of music, Dr. Benjamin Warsaw. He was joined by the co-director of the evening, the soprano Maria Zuzov, who is also an educator, director, producer, writer and the co-founder of the Savannah Voice Festival.

This event of this musical evening was titled “Come Together, An Evening of Relationships.” The premise for the evening was love, cause of the proximity in time to Valentine’s Day, all the songs had something to do with what some people consider the most powerful emotions—love.

Warsaw also comment on why the evening was called “Come Together,” “we’re doing this along with the Savannah Voice Festival, together. And since we are also close to Valentine’s Day, as you can see in the program all the songs are related with love.” All the singers of the evening came from the world of opera. One of the songs performed was the mythical “To Reader” from “Carmen” by Giacomo Puccini, which also dealt with love. And although many of the songs had something to do with love, they not all were about it. Some of the songs were a case for the worries do not hold up.

A step to overcome for the singers was the fact that they had to perform the original versions of a lot of the songs, which added even more difficulty. However, you can admire the artists even after all the efforts overcome them and perform in an almost perfect way.

All these factors combined together in an enjoyable time of piano pieces from the classical pieces of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart or Franz Schubert to Hugo Peretti, Manos Hadjidakis or Franz Schubert to Hugo Peretti, Manos Hadjidakis or the great Leonard Bernstein. It was also featured work by the renowned George Bizet, Maurice Ravel and George Gershwin. When Warsaw was asked if he thought piano has been underestimated in music responded with, “Absolutely.”

“Man of the Woods” Album Review

Justin Timberlake returned this year with his anticipated fifth album “Man of the Woods.” It was produced by the Neptunes (Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo). While Timbaland is also a great producer on the album, it is nice to see Timberlake working with the Neptunes again.

“After doing some background research on the album, it was discovered that its name is named for his son Silas whose name means ‘man of the woods.’ Given this fact, the album is underwhelming and unnecessary. "Wave," the following track is a worthwhile listening experience. "Higher Higher" is the next, and possibly best, song on the album. While the lyrics are not great, and it may run a minute too long, the track is still memorable. The title track follows, and, while unsure of what to expect from the track, what was received was surprising. Instead of a piece on which the album can rest, the listener receives a standard apology/promise to be better.

When Warsaw was asked if he thought piano has been underestimated in music responded with, “Absolutely.”
What Winter Olympic Sport would you pick and why?

“Cross country skiing, it looks like it’s a lot of fun, you get to go really fast and hopefully I’ll be good if I was at the Olympics.”
Briana Pritchard
Junior, Art Education

“Skiing. I don’t know any of the other ones.”
Ambriana Jones
Freshman, Communication Sciences and Disorders

“Snowboarding. I saw a movie and it looked really cool.”
Janay Caver
Freshman, Radiation Science

“I would pick ice skating because it’s always been my dream to know how to do it but every time I try, I fall on ice and it sucks. But it’s still a beautiful sport!”
Ana Rodriguez
Freshman, Chemical Engineering

Photo Story: Super Museum Sunday

Sunday Feb. 11, all museums in the Savannah area opened their doors to the public free of charge. Below is a photo story of Savannah residents taking advantage of the Super Museum Sunday event. Photos by Laura Weyman.
A Saturday in Statesboro

ETHAN SMITH
SPORTS EDITOR

For many of us here in Statesboro, the transition to Southern has been tough in all aspects. Many of us feel like we are left out of most events that occur in Statesboro or may not have the luxury of having a car to travel one hour to Statesboro, so we do not have transportation to most sports events. However, I do not believe this is an issue that should be fixed.

The Inkwells, took the liberty of sending me, Ethan Smith, to Statesboro on the day of a basketball game to showcase what a day at one of Statesboro’s games might look like in the eyes of an Armstrong campus student.

With the Eagles playing top-seeded Louisiana in a major basketball game Saturday, I decided to make the trip to Statesboro to see what GSU had to offer. With the game starting around 5:00 p.m., I decided to leave around 3:30 so that when I arrived I could soak in the overall atmosphere of the campus on a game day. Driving from Savannah to Statesboro is very eventful. Except for the traffic on the interstates, the scenery ranging from trees to farmland to lakes. With it being the middle of the afternoon, much of the scenery was at dusk, which gave an even better feel. Going by yourself can be somewhat difficult with no one in the car to talk to, but just relaxing while driving and embracing the environment around you is a feeling that people rarely get.

Once I arrived in the city of Statesboro, I could tell exactly where I was. As Eagles logo on the main campus, I was not mistaken. Almost every car around me had some type of GSU sticker, flag, something to indicate either their fandom or family heritage. It was honestly like I was a sore thumb in the road because I didn’t have anything navy blue on my car.

Arriving on GSU’s campus almost felt like home. The campus closely resembles the Armstrong campus with its variety of trees, fountains, plants etc. Arriving at Hanner Fieldhouse, for those who don’t know, is an amazing facility, and is named after “Shep” Waun, who really convinced me to embrace Georgia Southern’s culture. We all cheerled together, boomed together, sang the fight song together, got into conversations, it was amazing, eventually lost, but it didn’t kill the mood by any standards. Even as I exited, many of the students were still talking about the game and how they were all show up to the next one. It honestly took my breath away at how welcoming and in touch the students were with each other, and I feel that as a Southern student we should feel the same way.

What you should all take into account is that just because Georgia Southern is a lower tier college, it does not mean every one here at the Inkwell, staff or writers, think the culture of GSU is any less than the Braves or any other school. The culture of GSU is very unique, and it’s worth getting into. Take the trip down to Statesboro and find out for yourself. Here at the Inkwell, we promise GSU won’t disappoint.

They are actually a great group of people who welcome everyone. The Statesboro campus is also very beautiful, Hanner Fieldhouse is an amazing facility, and the overall atmosphere of the campus grabs you and pulls you in. As we enter a new era in our college careers, let’s not change the name and the distance between our campuses make you feel like you don’t belong. We are all Eagles, whether we like it or not, but we should embrace the fact that the culture of GSU is very unique, and it’s worth getting into. Take the trip down to Statesboro and find out for yourself. Here at the Inkwell, we promise GSU won’t disappoint.

Breeze Off The Pond. The album is available for listen on Spotify, iTunes, and Vinyl now.

Festival will be held this year from August 4 to the 26. Tickets will be on sale in May.

Win two free tickets to Savannah Music Festival

Vote in our online poll! What should The Inkwells look like?

Deadline: February 26, 2018

thinkwellonline.com